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Cyprus C\$ 1.00	Kuwait K\$ 1.00	Slovakia S 1.50
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The new craze for country house music

Mozart in mufflers

G2 with European weather



Ian Katz meets

The best marksman in Bosnia (He's in the Olympic team)

Sport, page 15

Society

Introducing the hyper car: 400 mpg

G2 page 10/11

MPs pay: voters say No

Martin Kettle and Michael White

MPS who vote tonight in favour of the proposal for a £9,000 pay rise for backbenchers will do so in defiance of public opinion. A Guardian/ICM poll today shows that voters are overwhelmingly opposed to increases on such a scale, whether for MPs or ministers.

But, with tonight's Commons majority on a knife-edge, ICM brings better news for John Major and his prospective successor, Tony Blair. More than a third of voters think the award of £143,000 to the Prime Minister would be "about right".

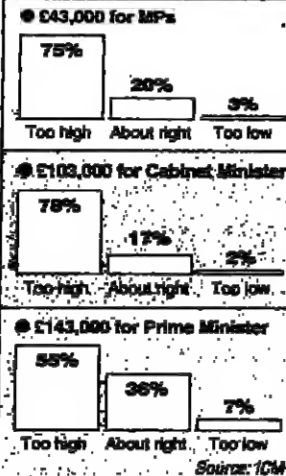
That is still a clear minority, but significantly more supportive than the public mood towards big rises for MPs or ministers — whose claim to a "catch-up" award after a decade of restraint is being resisted by Mr Major and Mr Blair in favour of another self-denying formula worth 3 per cent from July 1.

It emerged last night, however that shadow cabinet members, including Ann Taylor, David Clark and Michael Meacher, refused to support Mr Blair's plea for unanimity on 3 per cent.

Some MPs, backed by ministers and Labour frontbenchers, are determined to insist on the full independent award from the Senior Salaries Review Body, worth around 28 per cent. Others fear that public pressure — plus the concomitant cut in their lucrative car mileage allowances — makes discretion the better part of valour.

MPs whose seats are far from London could lose from setting higher taxable salaries, but lower tax-free mileage, which the report proposes. Either way three

MPs salaries



quarters of the electorate regards the proposed salary of £43,000 for backbench MPs as too high, compared with current pay of £34,000.

More than half of all voters think the figure is "far too high". Only 3 per cent think it is too low. An even larger majority of 78 per cent disapproves of the recommended £103,000 salary for cabinet ministers, with only 2 per cent thinking that too low.

The poll asked voters: "The Senior Salaries Review Body has recommended that MPs' salaries be £43,000 per annum from next year. Considering the job done by MPs and the salaries paid for comparable work elsewhere, what is your view of this level of salary?"

In reply, 53 per cent said it was far too high and 22 per cent a little too high, a total of 75 per cent. Two per cent thought it was a little too low and only 1 per cent thought it was far too low. Twenty per cent of voters thought that £43,000 was about right.

Asked about the recommendation that a cabinet minister's salary rise to £103,000, 51 per cent of voters said such

an award would be far too high, with a further 27 per cent thinking it was a little too high. Seventeen per cent think £103,000 is about right.

Public opinion softens a little on the proposal that the Prime Minister receive £143,000. Fifty-five per cent think the figure is too high, 7 per cent too low. However, 36 per cent of voters say the award would be about right.

Tonight's votes on a series of options promises to reflect the traditional Commons assembly on MPs' pay. Normally these are free votes, but frontbenchers will be expected to back their leaders. Some MPs resent Mr Blair's stance just as they resented Lady Thatcher's in the 1990s: both have a high-earning spouse. The result may turn on discreet abstentions.

ICM interviewed a random sample of 1,200 adults aged over 18 by telephone on July 5-6. Interviews were conducted across the country and results have been weighted by the profile of all adults.

We need an MP's sacrifice, page 9

Prison survivor wakes at dawn and walks in Hyde Park



Nelson Mandela amid the military splendour of the Queen's welcome in London yesterday

Labour bid to end poll row

Michael White Political Editor

THE Labour leadership will consider tonight a compromise formula for resolving the running battle over this year's shadow cabinet elections in which it would agree to stage the contest in two week's time rather than after a protracted campaign in November.

If shadow cabinet backs this option, it could be accompanied by an official appeal to fractious MPs to back the entire front bench.

This appeal could be led by Labour's deputy leader, John Prescott. His standing among backbenchers may be high enough to save vulnerable frontbenchers like Harriet Harman.

Tony Blair, concerned that a shadow cabinet election would weaken the main fight against John Major, has been told by his chief whip, Donald Dewar, that he would succeed if he asked next week's meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party to cancel this year's campaign — but only at a price in terms of ill-will.

Many MPs, not all of them leftwingers, believe passionately that their right to pass judgment on their frontbench team remains an important one. Modernisers argue that the "beauty contest" approach is too crude and predict that Mr Blair would not feel bound to honour the results if Labour wins the coming general election.

Ms Harman, now shadow health spokesman, is thought vulnerable because of her decision to send her younger son to a suburban grammar school after sending her elder boy to the Oratory, a Catholic grant-maintained school in west London, also chosen by Tony and Cherie Blair.

Some MPs are claiming that a Prescott-endorsed vote for the status quo would also save Michael Meacher, Joan Lester and shadow home secretary, Jack Straw, whose tough law and order stance has alarmed many MPs.

PHOTOGRAPH: JACQUELINE ARZT

Why I'll vote for the rise:

Brian Sedgemore, Labour MP for Hackney South:

"MPs are over-worked and grossly underpaid for their services. This pay rise has been recommended by an independent body and I do not see why MPs should demean its findings by voting it down for hypocritical reasons. If the shop stewards argue that we are worth this rise, we should take it.

If I was working outside the House of Commons as a barrister I would be earning £250,000 a year, not £34,000. I am fed up with the designer haircut hypocrisy of Tony Blair whose wife Cherie as a barrister is bringing in a third of million a year while he is urging Labour members to vote for 3 per cent. John Major is taking a similar hypocritical line in arguing for pay restraint.

I come to work in a 1.6

Why I'll vote against the rise:

David Porter, Tory MP for Waveney:

"WHEN I first got into Parliament in 1987 I doubled my salary from £9,000 a year, as a Tory agent to Jim Prior, to £16,000 a year as an MP. Conservative Party agents are some of the lowest paid

people in the country so it was quite a relief to get the MP's salary at that time.

I drive to Parliament in an L-registered Ford Fiesta from my home in Lowestoft. We do have another car, an M-registered Espace, but it's not a top of the range model.

I came here to do a job I love so I wanted to devote all my time to it, so apart from two payments from two political opinion polls, I have never accepted any consultancy work. My only other income is the rents of a few small shops in Lowestoft and I share this with my sister.

My wife does not work now, although she did work part-time for me as my secretary at one time. We have four children and all of them are educated at state schools. We do have a comfortable lifestyle. I live in a five-bedroom detached house in a nice but not too posh road in Lowestoft.

I really do not believe MPs should get a 26 per cent pay rise when we are urging other people like teachers and nurses to accept pay restraint. I know the pay rise has been recommended by an independent body but I don't think the public will see it that way."

'Nelson, Nelson, Nelson' chant the children as Mandela accepts a royal welcome

Fazirah Nicol

UNDER a tearful sky the car rolled across the gravel strewn earth. Horses trotted under the red tassels of the Household Cavalry. The 1st Battalion of the Irish Guards stood stock still as a sergeant walked among their line checking to see that their kit was perfect and correct.

Out of the Rolls Royce's window Nelson Mandela's wide smile encouraged the roar of the 6,000-strong crowd. "Nelson, Nelson, Nelson," chanted scores of children.

Above the Horse Guards building, the new South African flag unfurled as the band struck up the anthem.

For Mr Mandela, who once came to London as a fugitive, the Queen threw a wide smile, her royal figure a slash of yellow across the braid of the uniformed worthies behind.

Mr Mandela shook her hand and turned to the front when the band played on. Admirals, ministers, field marshals and royalty peered out from the Camelot-style pavilion which was topped by a streaming red pennant.

Mr Mandela flew in to Heathrow airport late on Monday and was whisked into London to his room at the Dorchester hotel, beginning a four-day state visit.

Twenty seven years of prison has left an indelible mark on the way he sleeps and so, walking with the rising sun, he walked in Hyde Park at 5.15am yesterday, greeting the early morning commuters with hand shakes and smiles.

By mid-morning the public began to gather at the edge of the Mall and mobbed the narrow entrance to the Horse Guards parade ground. The band struck up, of all things, the theme to Star Wars.

Much of the crowd that fought to get seats at the ground, and no-one pushes and shoves with the fervour of royal watchers, were South Africans who fled into exile during the years of apartheid.

Hundreds of schoolchildren sang and chanted. "Mandela is one of the people I admire," said Popo Yusuf. "Certainly the only person I would have left north London to come and see."

Once the ceremony was over — guns fired salutes from Green Park and Prince Philip showed Mr Mandela the troops — horse drawn carriages took the dignitaries towards Buckingham Palace and lunch.

Mr Mandela leaned back beside the Queen and raised his hand to the cheering crowd. The guards wheeled and trooped away down Birdcage Walk, the cream of an army with a long history of campaigning in South Africa, and the shadow ground fell silent but for the departing crowd.

During the visit, Mr Mandela will gladhand Britain's leaders in business, politics and the aristocracy. But yesterday, as the crowd delighted in seeing the prisoner turned statesman, it was the people who received Mr Mandela's great smile.

The rest of the day drifted past, leading towards last night's great state banquet at Buckingham Palace where all the royals, except the Princess of Wales, gathered. By then, the Queen Mother had already met Mr Mandela, having invited him over for tea at five.

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Inside

Kenneth Clark left the door ajar for Budget tax cuts. He said tough control on spending could compensate for a borrowing overshoot.

3

World News

Boris Yeltsin is again deep in the Chechenia mire with heavy fighting raging near Grozny and a truce with rebels in tatters.

7

Finance

Charles Vincent, £15 million-a-year head of Winchester Commodities, says he has been victim of a 'character assassination'.

11

Sport

England drew the third Test with India to take the series 1-0, only their fourth home series win in the last decade.

16

Comment and Letters 8
Obituaries 10
G2
Crossword 15; Weather 16
Radio 15 and TV 16

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2 NEWS

Sketch

All the kitsch of lime green leggings



Simon Hoggart

BRITISH people once knew how to behave, but our country is now irredeemably vulgar. Hello magazine includes "exclusive" pictures of Paul Gascoigne's wedding, including a photo of himself and another guest urinating.

How much do you imagine they paid for that? Do you think it was in the contract? "Clause 27, sub-clause 13: the publishers shall print a full colour picture of the groom in his absurd Prince-Charming-in-pants-outfit, taking a slash."

At the other end of the social scale, Nicholas Soames addressed the Commons during defence questions. In a busy, well equipped, and able to meet many commitments all around the world, he declared. Clearly he was boasting about his sexual prowess. Fitful in anyone, but in a grandson of Winston Churchill?

It turned out that he was talking about the armed forces. I apologise.

Then up sprang Michael Fabricant, a man who is the epitome of vulgarity, combining the in-your-face kitsch of Barbara Cartland, a Ford Sierra Cosworth and lime green Lycra leggings.

The topic was the sale of non self-destructing landmines. Mr Fabricant was in favour of these, the more the merrier, provided it's us who sell them.

"While respecting that these landmines are an evil," he admitted, "our exports of arms are 19 per cent of the world's market."

At this point Mr Blair walked in, and my little friend's words were drowned by cheers from the Labour benches. (I hope he caught the Elton John video diary, Tantrums and Tiaras, on ITV the other night. It is vital that he begged people have positive

role models.) Undeterred, he continued his peason to the merchants of death. "Britain is second in the world only to America in supplying arms!" he cried.

At that precise moment the Prime Minister walked in, and an equally loud cheer prevented us from hearing what he had to say next.

The Speaker, who bears a slight resemblance to Elton John's mother and is just as protective of her boys, rose in fury at the noise. "The Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition are British politicians, not Roman gladiators!" she shouted.

You could have fooled me. And Dennis Skinner. "Throw him to the lions," he growled at Fabricant. (Pity the lions ate him. He'd spend the rest of his life spitting out nylon hairs from between his teeth.)

A spectacularly vulgar minister is James Arbuthnot, who speaks on defence. He revealed his ministry spends \$5.3 million a year on "hospitality". Tony Banks (Lab. Newham NW) inquired whether our new military strategy was to "party with our enemies until they drop".

Mr Arbuthnot foolishly suggested that the trouble with political jokes was that they sometimes got elected. Labour members went into tucks and complications.

Then there was the question of Ted Heath. It was his 80th birthday yesterday and his friends had come for the party. The Lords' gallery included so many dear companions of yore: Lords Whitelaw, Prior and Fryn.

It was seeing a yellowing old newspaper in an empty drawer. The three-day week! Prices and incomes policy! How could we forget so soon?

The Great Helmsman arrived. A low rumble of greetings towards a rear, Mr Arbuthnot, who was answering another question, kept talking. There was more rumbling.

Even Labour's John Reid tried to signal wildly at the minister, who became a teardrop in the weak Sir Edward was elected leader of the Conservative Party. He begged him to shut up. But in a chamber where Michael Fabricant is owed the same bearing as Major and Blair, why should he pay any attention to a mere elder statesman?

First night

Exciting duo shine in masterpiece

Edward Greenfield

La Traviata Covent Garden

WHEAT price the Three Tenors, when at Covent Garden you can get not a collection of operatic snippets sung by three old staggers (collector well-preserved), but a supreme masterpiece involving the most exciting duo of soprano and tenor to have emerged in years.

It is only 18 months since the Romanian soprano, Angela Gheorghiu, won all hearts in her revelatory performances as Violetta in Verdi's La Traviata.

With Sir Georg Solti conducting, it was a rare old staggers (collector well-preserved), but a supreme masterpiece involving the most exciting duo of soprano and tenor to have emerged in years.

Meanwhile, as we learnt from the gossip column, Gheorghiu had teamed up more than an operatic sense with the tenor who only a month or so earlier had made a comparable impact in Gounod's Romeo et Juliette, Roberto Alagna.

What better way to present La Traviata in the Royal Opera House's ongoing Verdi Festival than to have the now husband and wife team appearing together as Violetta and Alfredo?

The wonder is that in 18 months Gheorghiu's portrayal of Violetta has grown even deeper, intensely beautiful physically and musically, she is so inside the role that she seems not to be acting at

all but spontaneously to be expressing her deepest emotions. Her floating of gentle high notes in the two great arias, Ah fors e lui in Act 1, Addio del passato in Act 3, is so flawless that she makes it sound easy.

If Alagna as Alfredo is less revelatory, he paints an engaging portrait of the hero, youthful and eager, with vocal lyrical and finely shaded, revealing his wonder on first seeing his heroine, and confidently telling of his passionate splurge in his Act 3 aria.

The third principal sets the seal on a masterly presentation. Thomas Allen singing the role of Germont, Alfredo's father, for the first time at Covent Garden.

Here is the stern father personified, who gradually melts in the face of such love as Violetta's for his son, who yet forces himself to demand her ultimate sacrifice. Vocally, too, this is as near flawless as one could imagine, a performance consistently subtle, never stentorian.

Not that the evening had an encouraging start, when the conductor, Simone Young, set such a sluggish pace for the Prelude. For the rest, however, rather than inspired, never matching the magnetism of Sir Georg Solti when Richard Eyre's sympathetic production first appeared in 1984. Happily, Bob Crowley's designs look as pretty and atmospheric as ever.

The eight performances (up to July 19) involve not just this ideal first cast, but an alternative — promising enough, but most unlikely to match it.

This review appeared in later editions yesterday.

School expulsions top 11,000 for second year

Donald MacLeod Education Correspondent

ROBIN SQUIRE, the schools minister, told a National Children's Bureau conference in London that forthcoming figures would show permanent exclusions in England and Wales in 1994/95 had topped 11,000 for the second year running.

The Government would legislate if necessary on the appeals panels, which had attracted criticism but which were trying to strike a balance between the interests of the excluded pupil and the majority of children in schools.

Mr Squire said independent appeals were necessary and governors' decisions had been overturned in only 180 cases.



Ahmed Malik... suffered fractured skull

Third police search of tower block reveals fugitive hiding in a cupboard

School attack: man held

Alex Bellon and Nick Varley

A MAN was arrested last night in connection with Monday's machete attack at a Wolverhampton infants school which left seven people injured.

Police discovered him in a cupboard in a corridor on the eighth floor of Villiers House, near St Luke's infant school where the incident took place.

A dog handler and three uniformed officers found him in the third search of the tower block since the incident occurred.

A hundred onlookers shouted "Scum" as he was led into a police car to be taken to be interviewed at Wolverhampton police station.

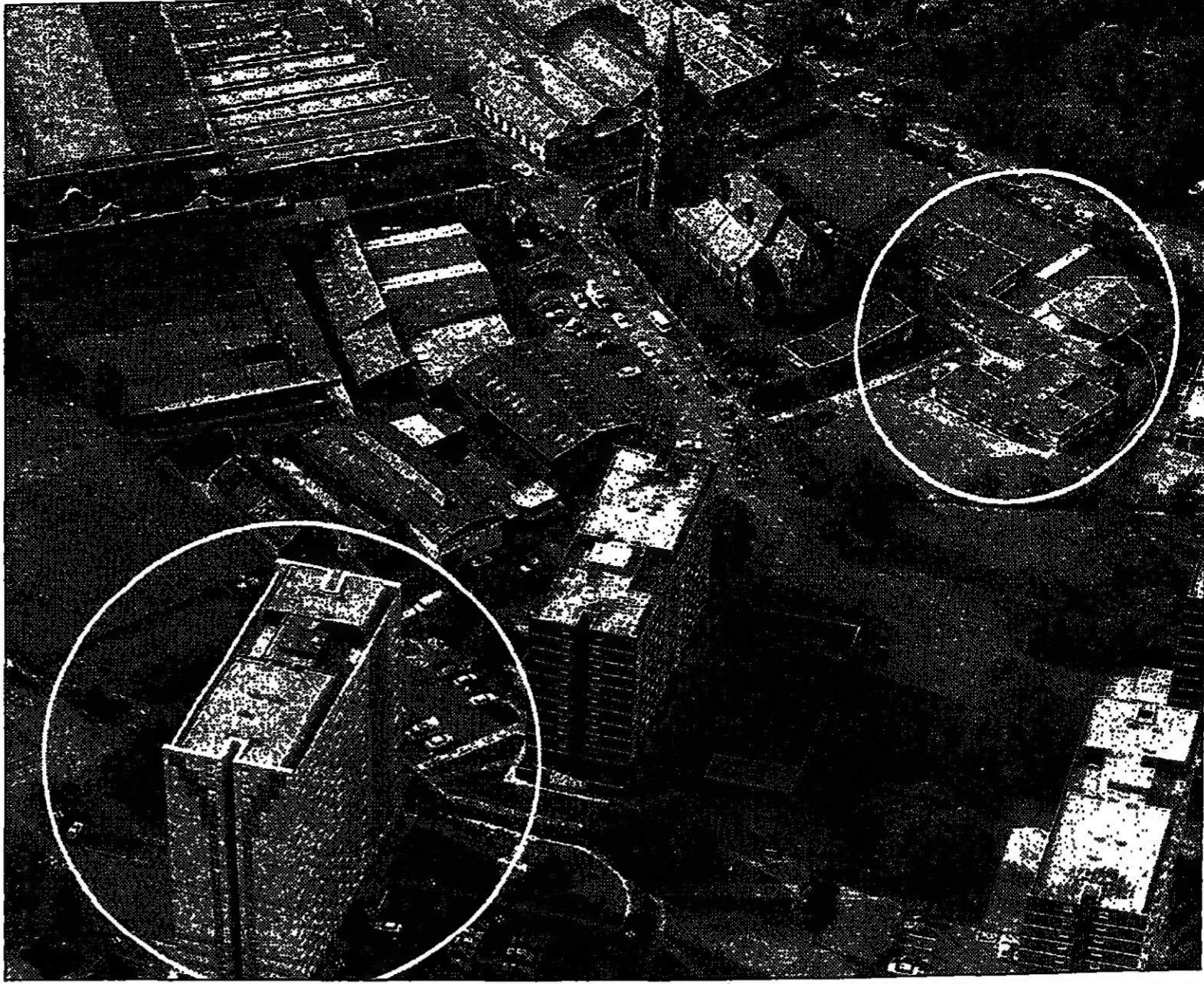
A police spokesman said the man, whose name was not released, would not be questioned until today.

Thirty officers in full riot gear returned to the tower block near the school shortly after 7.30pm despite two searches in the 27 hours since the attack. About 20 minutes later they emerged with the man.

The huge police hunt, which started after a man jumped over the waist-high school wall brandishing a two-foot-long blade and then attacked a group of children enjoying a sabbath picnic, was focused on Villiers House after witnesses said they saw the attacker heading towards it.

Officers first searched the block on Monday night. A second, five-hour search was carried out yesterday before the final sweep in the evening. Last night officers were also conducting house to house inquiries at 700 homes in six other tower blocks.

Doctors were still treating



St Luke's infants school (ringed top right) and Villiers House, the block of flats where police concentrated their inquiries (bottom left) PHOTOGRAPH: STEVE HILL

five of the victims. Two adults and the three children injured in the incident remained in hospital and were said to be in a stable condition.

Pupils Rhema Chopra and Francesca Quirynne, both aged four, were recovering at the town's New Cross Hospital with lacerations to their faces.

A hospital spokesman said one also had a broken jaw and a severed ear.

The third child, Ahmed Malik, aged three, who was at the party with his sister, suffered a fractured skull and was taken to Birmingham's Children's Hospital.

Of the four adults taken to New Cross, two have been released. The other two are Lisa Potts, aged 19, the nursery nurse hosting the picnic, who has broken bones and damaged tendons in her arm, and Wendy Willington, aged 28.

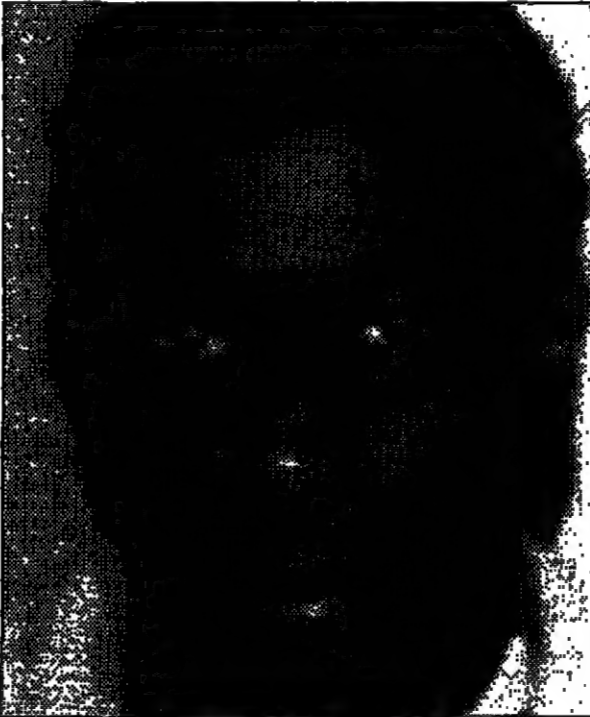
Meanwhile, it emerged that St Luke's tightened its security in light of the stabbing last year of headmaster Philip Lawrence in north-west London.

The school, which is now closed indefinitely, had installed locks to all outside doors and was not considered a security risk because it was enclosed by a wall and a fence, according to Ray Lockwood, Wolverhampton Council's director of education. The nature of the attack raised questions about what security means, he added.

Councillor David Hawkins, chairman of a working party on the security of Wolverhampton schools, said that 500,000 extra had already been allocated to tackling the issue this academic year.

All staff at the town's schools were to be issued with personal alarms, costing a total of £10,000.

Leader comment, page 8



Horrett Campbell... known locally for strange behaviour

Eccentric loner put under pressure by death of 'only friend', his mother

Profile

Stuart Miller

HORRETT Campbell, named by police in connection with the attack at St Luke's school, is a well-known face in Blakenhall. Whether driving his orange Volvo or wearing his pork pie hat, he was a familiar

sight in the community that surrounds St Luke's church and the neighbouring infants' school.

But, during his years there, he has always remained outside the community, known only as a loner who behaves strangely.

Harrish Patel, the owner of the Rose and Crown pub across the road from Campbell's home, remembers him as an eccentric. "He

would never buy a drink," said Mr Patel. "He would just lean against the door, always wearing his little pork pie hat, and stare at people. When they went to the lavatory he would steal their pints or their cigarettes. If anybody challenged him he would just turn around and walk out."

Mac Nijjar, the landlord of the nearby pub The Glassy Inn, tells a similar tale. "He never bought drink. When he comes in he searches the floor and ashtrays for dog ends. He is an out and out loner."

One man, an old classmate from Campbell's time at Catton Hill secondary school, remembers him as a shy boy who never mixed with the other pupils and who avoided getting involved in sports. Nobody could remember him having a girlfriend.

His retiring nature at school made allegations about Monday's attack even more difficult for old classmates to comprehend. "He took me by surprise,"

one woman said. "He was always so quiet but he wasn't mad. He knew exactly what he was doing."

Campbell moved into Villiers House, a 10-storey block, in 1983 just after leaving school. Five years later the council designated the block as accommodation for single young people. Although he was at the top end of the age range, Campbell had secure tenure and was able to stay.

The move to Villiers House seemed to be good for Campbell who, for the first time, started to come out of his shell. Growing his hair into dreadlocks he adopted a rastafarian

image and joined a popular local reggae sound system, Ambassador. Oia, fans remember that one of the Ambassador's songs was very popular in local clubs. But within a few years he had returned to his old ways, shunning his neighbours and devoting himself entirely to fixing up old cars.

"He loved his cars and would be working on them at silly hours of the day and night," said David Freece, aged 52, a resident of a neighbouring block. "I saw him washing it once at 3am and once I saw him painting it a pink colour."

Campbell's Volvo, which he had lovingly hand painted orange recently, was his pride and joy, neighbours said.

"That's all he did was fix up that car," said Sylvia Ferguson, aged 30. "If he had been hiding in the flats when police towed it away on Monday he would have run out and chased after it. It was the only thing he cared about."

His only friend was his mother, and he struggled to cope with her death two years ago.

Residents became more wary of his increasingly eccentric behaviour, which on one occasion involved setting fire to one of the cars he had restored.

"Everybody around here knew Lizzie," said Martin David, aged 18. "The death of his mother put him under a lot of pressure."

Campbell has an elderly father, Isaac, who lives a mile away in the All Saints area, but visited him only about once every three months. He also has a sister.

US Gulf 'smart' bombs hit budgets not targets

Martin Walker in Washington

THE Pentagon heavily over-estimated the military effectiveness of the famed "smart" weaponry of the Gulf war, a four-year official survey reports today, as it questions the sky-rocketing cost of the new munitions.

With Tomahawk cruise missiles costing more than \$1 million (\$943,000) each, and the bill for the new B-2 "stealth" bomber at \$2 billion (£1.29 billion) each, it is a serious question whether the United States can afford any

more such victories, according to the report by the General Accounting Office (GAO), the main watchdog of the US government.

It says the subsequent claims made by the US military and the main weapons manufacturers were "over-stated, misleading, inconsistent with the best available data, or unverifiable".

Smart weapons accounted for only 8 per cent of the tonnage of bombs dropped on Iraq, but for 64 per cent of the munitions costs. The Pentagon, infatuated with the promise of the new munitions, has \$58 billion-worth of

smart weapons on order — more than the cost of Britain's annual defence budget.

The 250-page report discounts the US air force claim that 80 per cent of the bombs dropped by the F-117 stealth fighters were on target. The reality was nearer 40 per cent, the GAO claims, after a survey based on more than 100 interviews and more than a million items of information — from intelligence reports and after-action analyses to photo-reconnaissance and damage to Iraqi targets.

"It is inappropriate given aircraft use, performance and effectiveness demonstrated in Desert Storm to characterize higher-cost aircraft as generally more capable than lower-cost aircraft," says the declassified summary. The main report remains secret.

Despite the Pentagon's successful media campaign during the Gulf war, suggesting that Patriot missiles had shot down 41 out of 42 Iraqi Scud missiles, and that the laser-guided bombs had shown stunning accuracy, the reality was far less impressive.

"One-target, one-bomb efficiency was not achieved," the report concluded. "The air campaign data did not validate

the purported efficiency or effectiveness of guided munitions, without qualification."

The report comes as the Republicans in Congress are attacking President Bill Clinton for spending too little on defence, and insisting that US spend even more on high-tech weaponry for strategic missile defence, for a new generation of ships carrying batteries of 300 cruise missiles, and for "digitalised" infantry plugged into spy satellites.

By contrast, the most recent casualties suffered by US armed forces were inflicted by crude truck bombs in Saudi Arabia, and rifle bul-

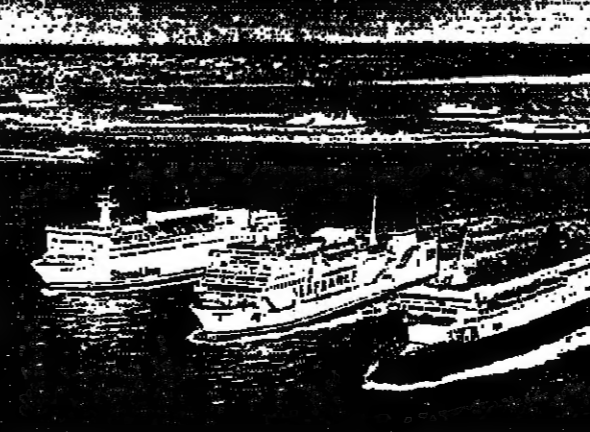
lets and even clubs and bare hands in the back streets of Mogadishu in Somalia.

"It would be nice, occasionally, if the target costs more than the bullet you shoot," was the saying of the late Admiral Mike Boorda, the Chief of Naval Operations who committed suicide in May after a controversy over his right to wear combat medals.

A sceptic of the more grandiose claims made for smart weaponry, Boorda said the US fleet of four second world war era battleships could outdo Tomahawk missiles, at \$5,000 per shell, rather than \$1.1 million per missile.

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Hoxton Square, where buildings now house art studios

Artists create a Left Bank in the east of London

Dan Gleister Arts Correspondent

SO YOU wanna be an artist? Think you can pick up sheep and pour concrete with the best of them? Think again. Before picking up the palette or looking for Mr Satchel's number in the phone book, let alone considering an art course, the aspirant artist should relocate to the East End of London.

10,000 fine artists, a quarter of the total in the country, work in a two square mile area between the Thames and Hackney town hall. With the highest concentration of artists in western Europe, the East End is Britain's unlikely answer to the Left Bank of Paris. Even the Chelsea Arts Club, the venerable south-west London home to Britain's artsy community, is rumoured to be seeking a new home in the east.



Artist Georgina Starr, who has exhibited at the Tate, moved into Hoxton Square some years ago

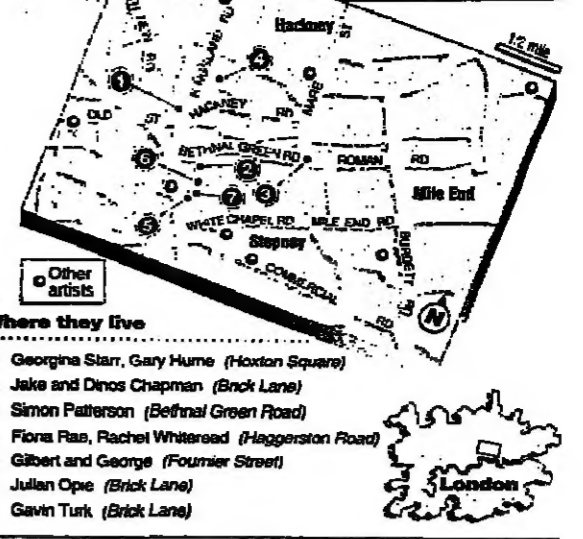
was won last year by Damien Hirst, who earned the nickname "the Godfather of Hackney" before relocating to Brixton and then Devon. Two years ago the prize was won by Rachel Whiteread, whose example of the extent of artistic endeavour in the east. "It is an indication of the number of artists who are pursuing this seriously," said Cath-

erine Lampert, director of the Whitechapel Open, which is co-ordinating the open. "It began when the docks started to shut down in the late sixties, and then spread much wider. Now there are probably 20 openings every week in the area. We received over 2,000 submissions."

The reason for the concentration of artists is a simple one: money. East London has a high proportion of disused light industrial buildings offering cheap rents and large spaces for studios.

Georgina Starr, who has exhibited her video-performance installations at the Tate, moved into Hoxton Square some years ago. "There was a lot of derelict

London's art end



"We came here for cheap rent and very big spaces, and we liked the idea of a community of artists."

- Matthew Flowers, Hackney gallery owner

property at reasonable prices. "There is a clustering," said Mr Sharples. "Visual artists, who tend to be solo, seem to benefit from living close together."

It could be that young artists are the beneficiaries of trickle-down Thatcherism. "In the past, being an artist was too risky," said Michael Craig-Martin, an artist, Tate Gallery trustee, and the teacher behind many of the better known names of BritArt. "The mentality seems to be that now, with job security undermined, everything is too risky, so you might as well do what you want."

Matthew Flowers points to the development of a parallel economy, with suppliers of materials in the area "not to mention galleries and spaces where they can exhibit". Kats Bernard embodies the spirit of the East End artists. She recently bought a house between Brick Lane and Spitalfields Market, which will function as her home and an exhibition space. "In Spitalfields there's not necessarily beauty all around but there's a lot going on. Artists, designers, tailors, furniture makers, people reviving traditional crafts. You've got this mix of styles and energy."

The first show in her home is of drawings by artists who live or work nearby. First, Cornelia Parker, Gavin Turk, Jake and Dinos Chapman, Julian Opie, it is something of a who's who of the contemporary British art scene.

But the essential tool for a successful contemporary artist is the right phone number. Not surprisingly, many of the East End artists share similar phone numbers. Like the lucky phone numbers of the Far East, where certain numbers when spoken out loud are thought to invoke good luck, the numbers 689, 618, 247 are a sure sign that you are at least on the shortlist to be an artist.

1,000 extra troops for Ulster

Major rejects Unionist calls to overrule RUC chief on march

David Sharrock, Owen Bowcott and Michael White

ONE thousand extra troops are expected to arrive in Northern Ireland today as a symbol of the Government's determination to face down loyalist efforts to disrupt the province in defence of their fight to stage traditional Orange marches.

With the political temperature rising after widespread overnight disorder, John Major last night warned the fragile peace process is in jeopardy, but rejected demands from Unionist MPs to overrule the RUC Chief Constable, Sir Hugh Annesley, and permit a token Orange march to the Drumcree parish church outside Portadown.

Mr Major met the three Unionist leaders, David Trimble, Ian Paisley, and Robert McCartney, in his Commons office, to hear their accusations that Sir Hugh's decision to prevent the march passing through Catholic streets was a "politically motivated" act of appeasement towards Sinn Fein/IRA. It was making a powder keg of the province, they said later.

Echoing the Northern Ireland Secretary, Sir Patrick Mayhew, Mr Major told them that Sir Hugh had his "full support" and appealed to the

Unionist leaders to exercise the "maximum restraint". Faced with a warning from the Liberal Democrat leader, Paddy Ashdown, that "to be cleared" had returned to Ulster - and could only benefit the IRA - Mr Major told the Commons that loyalist violence at the weekend had been "unacceptable". He called for sustained dialogue.

Orange Order leaders have attempted to stretch the security forces' resources with a series of parades and road blocks but yesterday they appealed for loyalists to demonstrate peacefully. The return of additional troops - which takes their number above the pre-1994 ceasefire level - confirms the Government's determination to face down the challenge to civil order posed by the Drumcree siege.

Unionist leaders yesterday accepted there had been "no meeting of minds" at Downing Street. However Mr Trimble said he hoped progress had been made. He continued to blame Sir Hugh for stopping the Orange parade down Portadown's nationalist Garvaghy Road.

"I think the Government appreciates that with the 11th night and the 12th just 48 hours away it is essential we find a resolution of this problem in the next day or two. "I don't see that there can be a solution which does not



Protestant marchers stand behind the barbed wire in Drumcree

involve the Portadown brethren returning home by the direct route, probably in a similar manner to that which they returned last year. As a fresh wave of vehicle hijackings and burnings paralysed many major roads across Northern Ireland and the province was set for another night of violence, church leaders and a senior RUC officer joined in calls for urgent dialogue to resolve the Drumcree stand-off.

The primates of the Church of Ireland, Archbishop Robert Eames, said during a visit to Drumcree: "There is no excuse or provocation for the sort of violence we saw last night. This is bringing us back to the nightmare we were hoping we had left behind."

Ronnie Finagan, deputy chief constable of the RUC, said: "All people with responsibility must begin to talk, must sit down to resolve these issues. It is a desperately difficult issue, and no one should underestimate that." In north Belfast, the number of Catholic families forced to move out of a largely Protestant enclave rose to five. Martina Darragh said that assurances from a loyalist party that it would try to stop the intimidation had come "too late for her and her sister. "I just feel sorry that I have

Spending curbs may fund tax cuts, insists Clarke

Chancellor insists on spending cuts to fund tax cuts

Larry Elliott and Sarah Ryle

THE Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, left the door ajar for Budget tax cuts yesterday when he insisted that tough control of public spending could compensate for the overshoot in state borrowing announced in his summer forecast.

Mr Clarke increased the pressure on cabinet colleagues by holding out the possibility of further personal tax reductions in November, provided they trimmed demands in the looming public expenditure round.

His upbeat message fuelled Labour suspicions that Budget tax cuts could be driven by electoral rather than fiscal considerations and lead to severe problems for an incoming administration. Tony Blair accused the Government of being "untrustworthy and incompetent" in its handling of the nation's finances. The Prime Minister, keen to talk up the prospects for the economy, pointed to the Treasury's predictions that expansion would accelerate over the next year. The Chancellor had said the economy was set to bounce back strongly in the second half of 1996 and throughout 1997, driven by the fastest expansion in consumer spending since the Lawson boom of 1988. However, the sluggish

performance this year forced him to revise his growth forecast from 3 per cent to 2.5 per cent and raise his predictions for public borrowing.

City analysts were sceptical about the Treasury forecasts, saying that Mr Clarke would almost certainly need to trim base rates from their current 5.75 per cent to ensure that the economy grew at 2.5 per cent this year and 3.25 per cent in 1997.

The Chancellor did little to dampen such speculation when he said the Bank of England's inflation forecasts had "always been wrong and always been too pessimistic". But he made it clear that he had not given up hope of delivering the tax reductions demanded by the Tory right, a move which would help to achieve his forecast of 4.25 per cent consumer spending growth in 1997.

"I will cut taxes every time there is a chance of doing so. That means when I am totally satisfied that fiscal policy is entirely on course and we are heading for a balanced budget over the medium term and we are getting public indebtedness to a sustainable level." The latest estimates put the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement at £26.9 billion this financial year, £4.5 billion up on the prediction in last November's Budget. With tax revenues again set to be weak, the PSBR is forecast to show a modest im-

provement in 1997-98, dropping to £23 billion.

Mr Clarke said the key point was that the PSBR was on a downward trend and only half its peak of £45.4 billion in the aftermath of the recession.

City analysts said the 1997-98 forecast for the public finances was too pessimistic. Adam Cole, economist with securities firm James Capel, said: "We strongly suspect that, having been disappointed on receipts in recent years, the Chancellor could now well be looking at revising the PSBR forecasts down, a perfect background for a further tranche of tax cuts."

Flanked by William Waldegrave, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, the Chancellor said he was expecting a bruising spending round. "I know the Treasury always says the spending round is going to be tough, but this year we have even made provision for extra wet towels." The shadow chancellor, Gordon Brown, said Mr Clarke had "wildly been forced to eat his words and admit a £12.5 billion mistake in his Budget forecast for borrowing. He has admitted that growth this year will be lower than forecast, and investment is low."

Notebook, page 11; Clarke must cut rates, page 12

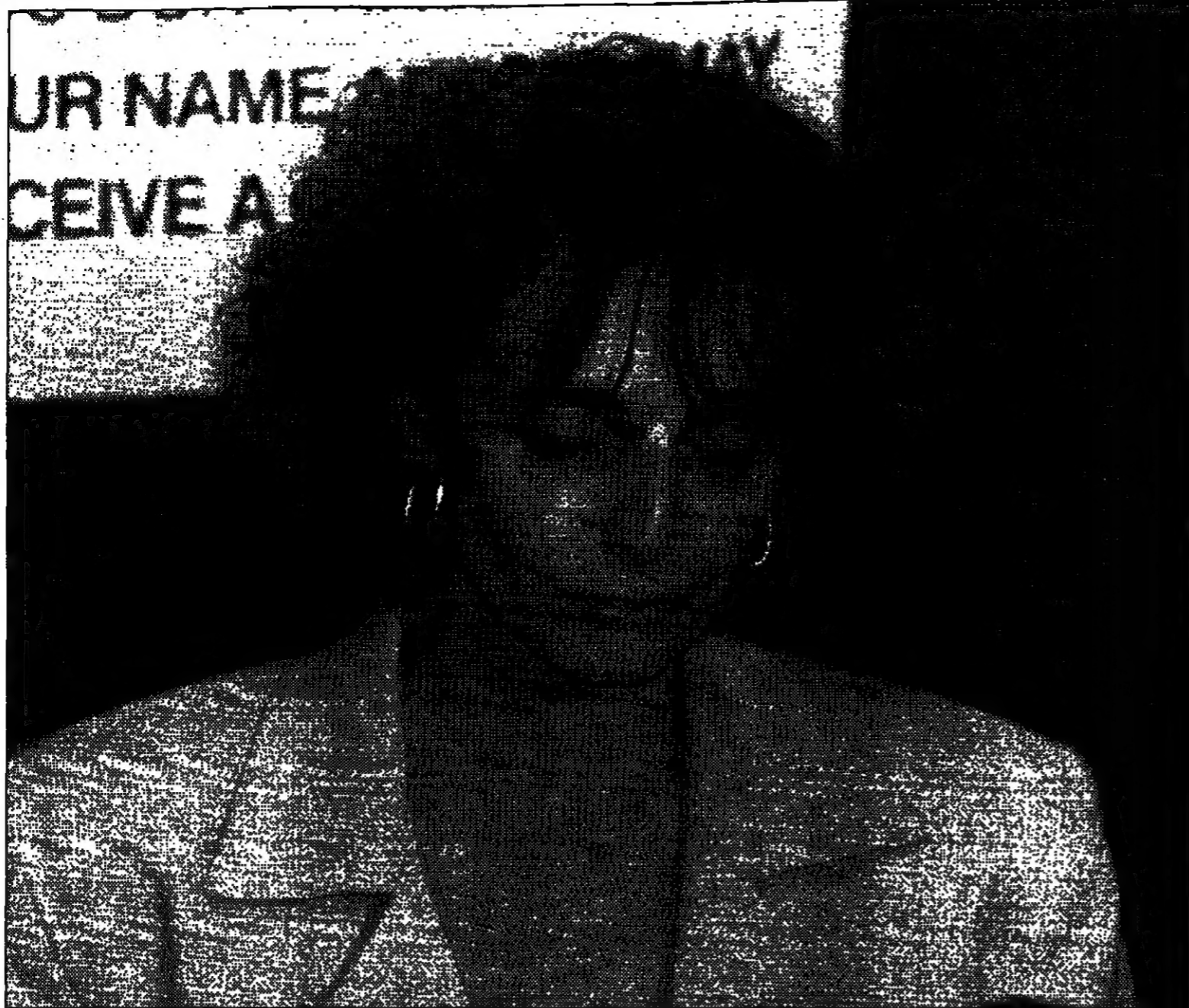
THE BOSTON THREE PARTY.

THE BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AT THE 1996 TANGLEWOOD FESTIVAL JULY 12 AT 6:50PM AND JULY 13 AT 7:40PM. RADIO 3 LIVE ALL WEEKEND FROM TANGLEWOOD, USA.



4 BRITAIN

'Jade loved life to the full. She loved sport, she loved to be with people and loved kids'



Denise Matthews (right)

Mother's plea over 'evil' act

Martyn Halsall on a cry for help in solving the murder of nine-year-old Jade Matthews

THE mother of murdered Liverpool schoolgirl Jade Matthews last night issued an emotional appeal for any information to help trace her killer.

— because it's evil, what happened. Mrs Matthews was flanked throughout by Detective Superintendent Geoff MacDonald, who is leading the murder inquiry, and a policeman who gripped her arms to support her.

view three other boys seen near the Maggie May pub, near the same underpass about a mile from Jade's home in Bootle at about 9pm on Sunday, Mr MacDonald said.

Anglicans and Methodists take step towards unity

Madeleine Bunting Religious Affairs Editor

ANGLICANS and Methodists are to explore proposals for a "visibly united church" after more than two years of informal talks.

that recent evidence of a dramatic decline in their membership was forcing them into unity with Anglicans. "This is not a matter of lashing two ships together to make them float. There is a lot of life in both churches," said Rev Brian Beck, co-chairman of the Anglican/Methodist talks.

according to plan, will the churches get down to actual details of an agreement. "This is not a rush job. We do envisage formal consultation with the churches before we take the formal step which we believe could be taken," said Mr Beck at a press conference in London to launch the unity consultation document.

Ban guns, Dunblane parents say

Sarah Bonoley

PARENTS of five of the 15 children killed in the massacre at Dunblane said yesterday that their sons and daughters had paid the price for people's right to own guns.

attack in Wolverhampton would have had far worse consequences if the attacker had had a gun.

"It may be thought that it is not beyond the wit of man to improve school security without turning schools into fortresses," he said.

The Dunblane parents made it clear that their tragedy was one from which they would never recover completely.

Kareen Turner, who lost her daughter Megan, five, is one of many who have attended the inquiry in Stirling every day.

"You get out of bed, drive along the road, thinking I'm only coming here because our children were killed and something has to be done about it. It is just unthinkable," she said.

Another parent, Pamela Ross, read from a statement which began: "Many people have said we have shown extraordinary courage and dignity and have asked how we have begun to cope."

"For us the simple answer is: We are out of bed, drive along the road, thinking I'm only coming here because our children were killed and something has to be done about it. It is just unthinkable," she said.

In a public appeal on the day before Lord Cullen's inquiry into the massacre is expected to end, the parents backed their lawyer, Colin Campbell, QC, who called during the hearings for a ban on civilian gun ownership and possession of guns.

"Guns are made to kill people. They should no longer be allowed in a civilised society," said John Crozier, whose daughter Emma, aged five, died when Thomas Hamilton opened fire in her primary school's gymnasium.

"My daughter's right to live is more important than anybody's right to shoot guns."

His family's farming connections made no difference to his feelings, he said. "After Hungerford the same MPs, the same shooting lobby, said it was a knee-jerk reaction, a hysterical reaction. If guns had been banned, the children would still be alive, with their teacher."

"Our children have paid the price for society's need to be able to target-shoot and shoot rabbits and foxes. Our children have paid the ultimate price."

The Dunblane parents said the parents of Wolverhampton, where small children were attacked on Monday by a man with a machete during a teddy bears picnic that was intended to reassure them about their new school, were very much in their minds.

In his closing submission to Lord Cullen, Mr Campbell argued that the "appalling"

BBC beats ITV in Euro 96 shoot-out

EURO 96 scored BBC its best performance against ITV for five years, it is reported today.

BBC1, compared with 8.32 million on ITV.

For the final between Germany and the Czech Republic, BBC1's coverage drew 12.62 million viewers, against ITV's 4.2 million.

BBC television's director of programmes, Alan Yentob, said: "I am delighted the viewers have backed the BBC."

BBC sports coverage had been magnificent, he said. In this summer of sport, the BBC has also shown Wimbledon and can expect keen interest in the Olympics later this month.

An ITV spokesman said: "Clearly, when there are two huge football matches in a week, it is going to cause an anomaly. We are still by far the market leader."

Normally, apart from Christmas and bank holidays, BBC1 lags behind ITV by several percentage points.

In peak time, the dominance was even more marked — 4.8 per cent, with BBC1 taking 38.6 per cent of total viewing against ITV's 33.8 per cent.

It was achieved even though the England-Germany semi-final was shown on both channels.

A total of 17.46 million people watched the match on

Knifeman preyed on vicars he met in gay bars

AN armed robber who preyed on vicars he met in gay bars, was told yesterday he faced years in prison.

London Underground labourer Errol Stewart, 33, tied up one victim in a vicarage bedroom, forced him to hand over his cash and later stole £200 from his account.

In another incident, the father of one from Forest Gate, east London, stole a clergyman's wallet.

At Wood Green crown court, north London, the judge, Kenneth Zucker QC, told Stewart, who has a criminal career going back 15 years: "This merits a considerable prison sentence and you will get it."

The court heard that the Reverend Martin Poole, 36, of St Mathias Church, Colindale, north-west London, was attacked at knifepoint last April after the pair met in a central London gay bar and went back to his vicarage where Mr Poole — who denied he was homosexual — allowed Stewart to massage his stiff neck. He said that without warning Stewart, a knife clenched between his teeth, bound him and tied him to a chair, then demanded his cash and PIN number. He later struggled free and rang the police.

Stewart, convicted of one charge of robbery and another of theft, claimed the £200 he took was for spanking and bondage the vicar asked for. What the jury did not know was that he had earlier admitted stealing a wallet from a Sussex clergyman he met in another London gay bar before returning to his vicarage. Later, the vicar drove him home and he snatched his wallet as he got out of the car.

Advertisement for TSB Mortgage featuring a call to action: 'Call the TSB Mortgage QUOTATION LINE. Go hunt that house.' Includes contact number 0500 758 000 and TSB logo.

Advertisement for Panasonic GSM mobile phones. Features: 'New Panasonic GSM with 4 months free line rental.*' Includes image of a mobile phone and pricing details: 'FREE LINE RENTAL FOR 4 MONTHS WORTH £70.52 inc VAT' and 'LIMITED OFFER £4.99 inc. VAT'.

Survive... can for... remain... York... Boy 'frozen'... SCHOOL pupil lay... Bristol... court... charged...

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Survival plan for Roman remains

Maev Kennedy

HUNDREDS of land owners along the 73 mile Hadrian's Wall have agreed a management programme which should guarantee the future of Britain's greatest Roman monument, built by imperial decree and stretching from Tyneside to the Solway Firth.

The programme will oversee the huge increase in tourism which has threatened the wall's survival at some points, while maintaining the area as a working landscape.

Details of the plan were announced on the wall at Cawfields in Northumbria yesterday, by the chairman of English Heritage, Sir Jocelyn Stevens. He called the wall a fragile and irreplaceable resource of international importance, which must be handed undamaged to future generations.

Under the arrangement, the monument's condition will be monitored, a programme of academic research launched, and all future commercial development discussed and agreed.

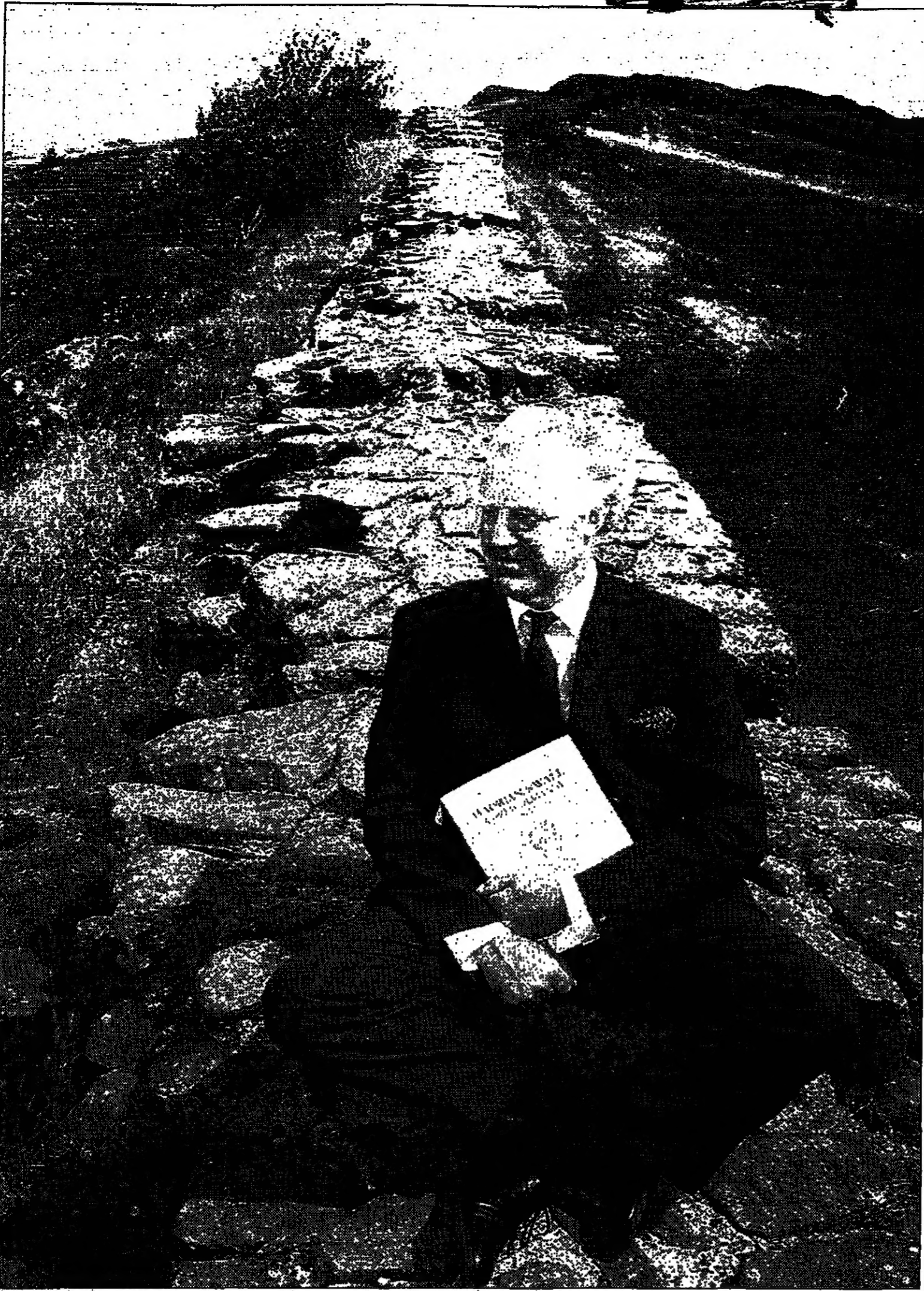
Sir Jocelyn said he hoped it would become a blueprint for the management of all of Britain's World Heritage Sites, which English Heritage is now working on.

The five metre high wall has suffered considerably since the Romans abandoned it in the fifth century. Dozens of forts and towers have been used as a cheap quarry for cut stone and the wall a convenient back wall for modern buildings and enclosures.

English Heritage has been consulting farmers, residents and local authorities for the last year. The National Trust, English Heritage itself and local authorities own some of the wall and its towns, forts and camps, but most is still in private hands.

Over 36,000 copies of the plan and a summary leaflet have been sent out with over 400 responses. Farmers were initially apprehensive, but Richard Kilson, regional director of the National Farmers' Union, yesterday said he was pleased the final plan acknowledged that centuries of agriculture were responsible for the beauty of the landscape on both sides.

Sir Jocelyn said he hoped the management plan would encourage landowners to remove planting and building from the more important sites, and to allow archaeologists on to their property.



Sir Jocelyn Stevens, chairman of English Heritage, on Hadrian's Wall with a plan to secure the monument's future. PHOTOGRAPH: OWEN HUMPHREYS

News in brief

Plutonium danger at Dounreay dump

A SHAFT containing hundreds of tonnes of plutonium contaminated nuclear waste at Dounreay in Scotland is in danger of being breached by the sea and will cost up to £200 million to make safe, the Government's Radioactive Waste Advisory Committee said yesterday. The shaft, 65 metres deep and close to the beach at Dounreay, had to be made safe or radioactivity could be released. It could be breached by the sea within 40 years, but the radioactivity inside it would be dangerous for 100,000 years. The danger was so great that the cheap option, costing £100 million, of sealing the shaft, was not acceptable. The more expensive option of removing the waste, packaging it and burying it at Sellafield in Cumbria was probably the best. The shaft was originally built as part of the construction of a pipeline to take low-level nuclear waste out to sea. It became redundant but the UK Atomic Energy Authority used it as a dump from the late 1950s until 1977. — Paul Brown

Woman, 96, mugged for £7

FOUR youths, three white and one black, are believed to have mugged Maud Wood, aged 96, pushed to the ground and robbed of £7 on an afternoon shopping trip. Last night Mrs Wood, of Finsbury Park, north London, was in a stable condition at Whittington hospital, Highgate, suffering from a broken nose and facial injuries. She was near her home when attacked. A neighbour, Martin Powell, 43, who has visited her in hospital, said: "I was shocked by what I saw. Her nose is broken and split open. She has bruises all over her arms and wrists. But the plucky old girl recognised me immediately. She does not know what happened. She keeps on saying she was pushed."

High Court fake case settled

A HIGH Court dispute between the auctioneers Sotheby's and a collector over a painting attributed to the Austrian artist Egon Schiele was settled yesterday. William Stockler, a lawyer, had brought proceedings over 'The Sleeping Girl' which he bought for £75,000 in a December 1995 sale of impressionist and modern drawings and watercolours. He has argued that the catalogue description of the watercolour as being that of Schiele (1890-1918) was negligent in that the colouring was not genuine. Sotheby's denied owing a duty of care to Mr Stockler, of Hampstead, London, or that it was negligent. The terms of the settlement were not disclosed.

Drink-drive warnings work

YOUNGER people are responding better to warnings against drink-driving than older motorists, according to a survey conducted by MORI for Privilege Insurance. Three quarters of 17 to 24-year-old drivers claimed never to drink and drive compared with 64 per cent of drivers over 25. Young male drivers were no more likely to drink and drive than their female counterparts, but older male drivers were much more likely to offend than older women motorists. Jim Wallace, marketing director for the insurance company, said: "While the figures seem rather surprising, they do substantiate the change in attitudes over the last 20 years."

25 compete for radio slot

SERVICES aimed at the retired, children, gays and lesbians, and the Irish community are among 25 contenders for the last slot on London's radio dial. It was announced yesterday. Favourites to win the licence for the remaining FM frequency include XFM4, a specialist alternative rock station, and Festival Radio, featuring alternative and indie music, combined with a listings service. Other contenders among bids submitted to the Radio Authority by yesterday's deadline include Saga Radio, a speech and music service aimed at over-50s, Buzz FM and London Children's Radio both for children, AIR and London Irish Radio both aimed at an Irish audience, and Radio France Internationale for London-based francophiles. Two established services are seeking a spot on the FM dial: Atlantic 252 and Capital Gold. — Andrew Cuff

Briton on £6.5m drug charge

A BRITON has been charged with smuggling heroin worth \$10 million dollars (\$6.5 million) after US customs inspectors found pills of the drug concealed in wood carvings. Steven Bristow, aged 33, from Essex, had been charged with smuggling the drug which was seized at Kennedy International airport, New York, on July 4, said a US customs spokeswoman. He could face up to 30 years in jail. She said Bristow was detained after inspectors became suspicious of his nervous manner and took a closer look at two wooden wall carvings that he brought into the US on a Virgin Atlantic flight from London. The seizure was "one of the top five, maybe the top three" drug finds in New York in recent years, said Thomas Smith, deputy special agent in charge of the customs service's New York office.

Children's books award

CHILDREN'S books have been taken out of the main £21,000 Whitbread Award and given an £8,000 prize of their own, to be chosen next January, it was announced yesterday. No children's novel has won the overall prize since the Book of the Year awards took their present form 10 years ago. Writing authors in the other categories of best novel, best first novel, best poetry and best biography receive £2,000, and the outright winner gets another £21,000. The prize will be chosen and announced at a prize dinner on January 21 1997.

Prize for Irish writer

FREELANCE journalist Maire Nic Suthne has been awarded this year's \$5,000 David Watt Memorial Prize for an article which was published in the Guardian. Her piece, published in the Weekend section last year and about the political allegiances of the Protestant working class in Northern Ireland, was chosen by judges looking for an outstanding contribution to the clarification of national, international and political issues and the promotion of their greater understanding.

Yorkshire drought error

Peter Hetherington

PARTS of Britain may have been knee deep in water for the past week or so, but yesterday Yorkshire Water applied to extend a drought order over the East Riding. But at the start of a public inquiry in Hull, it admitted it had altered output to allow peak rainfall levels 25 per cent less than those submitted by the Government's environment agency. "This is a scandal," said Mark Kelly, of the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, who accused the company of falsifying data. "I cannot deny it is very dry, but this is a very naughty thing to do." Yorkshire Water, criticised

for complacency and substandard service in a report it commissioned two months ago, wants to increase abstraction from the River Hull to avoid a threat to domestic supplies in the area. When asked about the figures at the hearing in Hull, the resource manager of Yorkshire Water, Ian Stevens, promised to investigate. "I am prepared to give the benefit of the doubt to the higher figure," he said. The company says an extension to a drought order, widespread through the rest of the area, is necessary to protect supplies later this summer and during the autumn. Officials said that the drought, which began in April last year, shows no sign of abating. "There is an ex-

ceptional shortage of rainfall and a deficiency of supplies, especially in the east and south," one said. Reservoir levels in the worst affected areas, such as Calderdale, are 52 per cent below capacity. The report into Yorkshire Water, by John Uff QC, a professor at Kings College, London, spoke of a "complete absence of any overall emergency plans" in parts of the area last year. The campaigning group Yorkshire Water Watch yesterday maintained there was no shortage of water in the East Riding. It said the company needed to increase extraction from the River Hull to ensure domestic supplies elsewhere in its area. "They know they are push-

ing their luck," the group said. "They have spent millions on a new grid system but do not seem to have any confidence in their ability to deliver." The Consumers' Association said yesterday it was considering legal actions against Ian Byatt, director general of Ofwat, the water watchdog, because of his forceful promotion of meters for domestic users. "We think Ofwat are breaking the law," the association's director, Sheila McKechnie, told the all-party parliamentary water group meeting at Westminster. "We are in negotiation, but there is a point at which you say to hell with it, let's see if we can continue the debate by legal or other means."

Car fall victim 'was grown up'

A STUDENT who was driving another student in his car when the latter fell out of the window during a "drunken car surfing" prank said that he regarded his friend as a grown up who could look after himself. Oxford crown court was told yesterday. The driver, Tatsuya Yoshimura, also said he had never heard of the "surfing" practice which led to the death of Thomas Pickett, aged 21, who lost his grip on the window of the moving car. Yoshimura, aged 23, denies causing death by dangerous driving and the alternative charge of causing death by driving without due care and attention after consuming excess alcohol. The court heard that Yoshimura, Pickett and a fellow student of Oxford Brookes University, Monica Bader, had been out drinking before the accident on November 8 last year. The accused, who was later found to be more

than twice over the drink drive limit, agreed to take the other two back to the campus. But as Yoshimura drove, Pickett stuck himself out of the passenger window and within seconds was lying on the road with head injuries which led to his death. Speaking through an interpreter, Yoshimura, from Japan, said: "Tom uttered something, I don't remember what he said. I saw him stick part of his body out of the window. I remember him shuffling his body. I can't be certain how far out of the vehicle he was. He disappeared." The jury was told that Yoshimura told police: "It is my other-knowledge that he was going to go surfing. I did not register anything except that he was muttering. I wasn't watching his movements. He was not stuck out very much ... Tom was a grown up. I was busy driving. I never imagined he would put the rest of his body out." The case continues today.

Boy 'frozen with fear after head's sex assault in dormitory'

ASCHOOL pupil lay "frozen with fright" as his headmaster allegedly molested him in a boys' school dormitory late at night, a court heard yesterday. A second pupil who claimed he was touched in bed by Robert Hay told Bristol crown court: "I was very shocked. I just could not believe it had happened." A third pupil at the West Country school claimed in a video interview he was touched by Hay on two occasions as he lay in bed. The three boys claimed that Hay had touched them after approaching their beds and pulling their duvet covers down. Hay, aged 42, who resigned as headmaster, has denied seven charges of inde-

cently assaulting six boys, aged from nine to 12, between August 1992, and June 1995. The judge has made an order preventing publication of the name and address of the school. The first boy witness, then aged nine, yesterday told the jury by video link that when the assault happened in September 1992 he was "too scared to move" and "frozen with fright." He said nothing because he was afraid Hay would shout at him. When defence counsel Ian Pringle suggested the incident did not happen at all, the boy replied: "Yes it did." The second boy, also nine at the time of the allegations, told the court via video link he said nothing after being

touched because "he was the headmaster, I did not like to." He later heard another boy had phoned Childline, and some pupils talked about things they said had happened to them. He agreed with Mr Pringle that some boys did not like Hay, but denied they saw this as a way of getting rid of him. "I did not want Mr Hay to leave, he was a jolly good headmaster," said the boy. He was "absolutely positive" he had been touched, and later told Robert Duval, prosecuting, that he was "very worried" about what would happen to Hay's family. Mr Duval said until he resigned as headmaster, Hay occupied a position of "considerable trust and responsibility," which the crown claimed he breached "in a profound way." The hearing continues today.

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Insurance firms join alarm over global warming

Owen Bennett Jones in Geneva

A GROUP of 58 international insurance companies yesterday called on governments of industrialised nations to achieve "early substantial reductions" in greenhouse gas emissions.

"We are worried about climate change because it is likely to cause more extreme weather events," Dr Andrew Dlugolecki of General Accident said at international talks in Geneva on the 1992 climate change convention. "We are losing increasing amounts of money through extreme weather." It is estimated that a single hurricane in the United States could set the global insurance industry back by \$50 billion (\$33 billion).

United Nations officials are delighted that a group normally known for its conservatism has joined the environmental cause. "When a major industry such as the insurance sec-

tor starts to worry, so should we," says Elizabeth Dowdeswell, the executive director of the UN Environment Programme.

British insurance companies are already facing payouts of \$500 million each year after a series of droughts. "A bad year of drought can cost millions of pounds in damage to house foundations," says Dr Dlugolecki.

The problem is not just the cost of severe weather: damage by insurance companies each year are becoming greater," says Ivo Knoepfel from the Zurich-based Swiss Reinsurance Company. Unpredictability makes it more difficult for insurers to work out the level of premiums.

Insurance companies admit that global warming does produce some benefits: there is expected to be a decline in claims relating to frost damage.



Cooling off... A Russian man, his pistol in a holster, carries a friend across a pool in Moscow, where yesterday the temperature reached 39C (91F). PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID SVALICH

General Lebed 'prepared to discuss secession'

Chechen fighting seals end of truce

David Hasrat in Moscow

PRESIDENT Boris Yeltsin is again deep in the quagmire of his 19-month Chechen crisis, with heavy fighting raging near the capital Grozny and a truce with rebels in tatters.

A day which began with his new security adviser, General Alexander Lebed, saying he was prepared to discuss the secession of Chechnya, ended in a somewhat different sentiment expressed by the top Russian military commander, who vowed to "destroy" the forces of the separatists.

Tension, already rising all weekend over the Russian refusal to take away roadblocks, exploded even before the passing of a Russian deadline for the rebels to hand over their prisoners. Last night fighting was raging around the village of Gekki, 16 miles south of Grozny, roads in and out of the capital were sealed off, the airport was closed and the whole province was under curfew.

"The bandits decided to outstrip us," said the Russian commander in Chechnya, Lieutenant-General Vyacheslav Tikhomirov, a man who had made little secret of his opposition even to a partial withdrawal. "This was their response to our demand to stop provocations."

The Russians claimed they had been conducting a "check of the passport regime" of residents in the village of Gekki when they came under fire, an explanation no one believed. They replied with air strikes and artillery. The loyalist government of Doku Zavgayev claimed the fighting erupted after Russians discovered the mutilated bodies of their comrades.

In Moscow, Mr Yeltsin discussed the deteriorating situation with his prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, but how far either man was in control of events was debatable. Gen Lebed, who campaigned on a promise to stop the war in Chechnya and even discuss its partition, is due to fly to Chechnya soon.

His idea is to divide the province and give autonomy to the separatist areas which have remained steadfast in their opposition to Russian rule. However as a symbol of its power, Russia, even under the Lebed plan, would insist on keeping Grozny, which the rebels also claim.

While Gen Lebed maintains the respect of the military, he

is too new in the job, and the job itself is too undefined, for him to stamp his authority on the situation. The senior military commanders despise the vacillations of Moscow's politicians. Even when the latest truce was declared, Gen Tikhomirov continued his assaults on villages, claiming the right of hot pursuit.

Each side accused the other of ceasefire violations. Gen Tikhomirov said that 47 servicemen had died and 300 had been wounded in clashes since the ceasefire was signed.

The rebel spokesman, Movladi Udugov, has urged Russia to observe the ceasefire, warning of the resumption of "large-scale" war and its "tragic consequences". Some separatist units reportedly responded to Gen Tikhomirov's demands with a threat to execute all their prisoners.

Meanwhile Gen Lebed, who is in the middle of a full-scale power battle against Mr Chernomyrdin in the Kremlin, scored an important point yesterday in the appointment of a new director of the Federal Security Service (FSB), to be a former named Nikolai Kovalyov, a career KGB officer, to the job.

Mr Kovalyov ran the FSB department on economic crime, and his arrival signals a crackdown on corruption, which Gen Lebed has been promoting. Gen Lebed was known to favour him.

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German feminists reject call to arms

Ian Traynor in Bonn

THE steady march of sexual equality through Germany's institutions has hit on the biggest male bastion of all, the military. But this time it is the politicians of the right who are calling for a combat role for women, while feminists and the left argue that equal opportunities should not extend to sharing the right to kill.

The row over service-women has erupted since the Free Democrats, Chancellor Helmut Kohl's small coalition partner, launched a campaign on Monday for combat training for women.

Curiously, conservatives and traditionalists not usually associated with pioneering women's rights are emerging as cheerleaders of the fighting women campaign, while radicals, liberals, and the left complain that this is one equal opportunity too many.

Under the German constitution, women are prohibited from bearing arms in the military, although they may join the armed forces as medical workers and musicians.

Leading the guns-for-women campaign, Guido Westerwelle, the Free Democrats' general secretary, described the constitutional ban as the "last sexual job discrimination".

On Sunday another conservative, Volker Rübe, the defence minister, said he wanted to see women soldiers included in patrol duties, which would require them to answer a call to arms.

He also foresaw service-women entering into hitherto forbidden areas such as telecommunications, lo-

gistics, and headquarters work. "But in the future I will still be against deploying women in combat units."

Senior female politicians are not leaping to the defence of the pro-equality camp, however. "Women's liberation does not mean equal rights to be trained to kill," said the Greens' defence spokeswoman, Angelika Beer.

Others argue that the sudden support for female soldiering is born not so much of concern for equal rights as of money and diminishing military pulling power.

The German system of military conscription is being eroded by mass draft-dodging and a lack of funding. At least as many men eligible for call-up opted to perform civilian duties last year as entered the military, making it increasingly hard to put together the 340,000-strong armed forces. Across-the-board spending cuts have also put pressure on the ability to recruit.

While the arguments in favour of a professionalised, all-volunteer military gain ground, the pro-equality campaigners say they do not want women conscripts to bear arms - only volunteers who ask for weapons training.

Karin Junker, a leading feminist in the opposition Social Democrats, said it was "cynical to drive women into unemployment as a reserve industrial army and at the same time to want to abuse them as an army reserve."

The male Greens' spokesman, Jürgen Trittin, said it was absurd to describe "non-participation in acts of killing" as discrimination against women.

War crimes trial restarts as attempt to oust judges fails

John Hooper in Rome

THE TRIAL of the former SS officer Erich Priebke is due to resume in Rome today after a prosecution challenge on the impartiality of the judges failed.

The 63-year-old German is being tried by a military court over Italy's most notorious wartime massacre - the killing of 336 men and boys at the Ardeatine Caves outside Rome. It is expected to be the world's last Nazi war crimes trial.

Proceedings were inter-

rupted last month when the chief prosecutor announced he would be seeking the removal of the judges.

His petition was based on the evidence of an army general who said the presiding judge, Agostino Quistelli, had told him that he thought Mr Priebke should be acquitted. Judge Quistelli admitted that the conversation took place but said the incident happened before he was appointed to the trial.

A lawyer for relatives of the victims said: "The sentence, whatever it is, will be marred by shadows and suspicion."

If Diana is to be dehighnessed for her adultery and indiscretion, why should her husband escape the same fate? Catherine Bennett

The way from Drumcree

The challenge is how to survive confrontation

ULSTER'S marching season embodies everything that people on this side of the water find alien about the situation in Northern Ireland and much of what makes the situation there so incomprehensible to the outside world in general. But not even the most casual British observer can be unaware that marching is — for whatever reason — a deeply embedded tradition which has been constantly rejuvenated by events both real and imaginary. This year, faced with a renewal of IRA violence and against the background of all-party talks which many unionists view with suspicion, the marches have inevitably been a focus for a particularly strong reassertion of loyalist identity. After last year's confrontation there, it was utterly predictable that Portadown would become an instant test case for a broader balance of power, and that a state of danger would continue until at least the climactic anniversary date of July 12. The challenge of days such as these is not to pretend that they can be avoided but to work to ensure that they can be survived.

Nevertheless, it is frighteningly probable that things in Northern Ireland will get worse before they can get better. The spiral of tension, which began when the Portadown Orangemen were banned from marching down Garvaghy Road from Drumcree church, has now widened out across the province as a whole. Monday's killing of a Catholic taxi-driver in Lurgan, allegedly by a rogue UVF unit in mid-Ulster, is the single most dangerous act in the north since 1994. Yesterday, the tension of which it was both a cause and effect triggered a series of further incidents, which have become unfamiliar during the period of ceasefire but which are all too reminiscent of the quarter century which preceded them: houses and cars set on fire in several towns, commercial life suspended, families forced to flee

from homes in enclave areas, and more than 80 roadblocks throughout all parts of Northern Ireland.

At the same time, it is important not to over-dramatise an admittedly dangerous situation. The scale of even these incidents is small. Serious violence remains extremely uncommon and, even more important, deeply unpopular. There is no political mileage for anyone in the tension escalating into tit-for-tat violence, and nothing has happened which would justify the IRA in restarting its campaigns in the north. The characteristic of the loyalist paramilitaries, notwithstanding the Lurgan killing, remains caution, a tribute to the emergence since 1994 of effective political parties. Most unionist politicians have played a restraining role, while the stand-off at Drumcree is infinitely to be preferred to the more violent confrontations which occurred there last year (when the ceasefires were in force). It could even be argued that these events have produced a phase of loyalist assertiveness which is psychologically necessary to their communities and which will help to bring home, particularly to American opinion, the seriousness of their anxieties.

Nevertheless, the events of this week are also a reprimand to politicians in Northern Ireland. After last year, the Drumcree confrontation should have been foreseen more clearly, and it was irresponsible to have allowed it to repeat itself. It is all very well the politicians blaming the RUC for creating the crisis by their ban. But it was the politicians and community leaders who forced the ban by their failure to defuse the routing crisis. Europe is being powerfully reminded this week of the catastrophic perils of sectarian civil war. Drumcree may seem a relatively peaceful scene, but the road from there leads not just into Portadown, but sometimes also to Srebrenica.

School is still a safe place

But improvements are needed, and the cash to pay

IRONICALLY, new restrictions on carrying knives came into force on Monday — the same day that the mad, machete-wielding man caused panic, terror and serious injuries to three children and three adults at a Wolverhampton nursery school. The new Act makes it an offence to carry a knife onto school premises, raises the maximum penalties for carrying an offensive weapon, and gives the police a new power of arrest without warrant. On the very same day that the Home Secretary was boosting his new provision ("if you carry a knife without a valid reason then you will get the punishment you deserve"), the Wolverhampton attack tragically demonstrated the limitations of the law. All three injured children needed operations for "disfiguring head injuries". The tragedy was made even more poignant by the fact that the children most exposed were attending a teddy bears' picnic — a pre-school party designed to make them feel more at home when they begin school next term.

Wolverhampton is the third serious violent incident in schools within a year. The official inquiry into the Dunblane massacre, in which 16 primary school children and one teacher died in March, is only just coming to a close in Scotland but the working party on school security, set up after headmaster Philip Lawrence was stabbed to death outside his west London school last December, has already reported. Education ministers are right to emphasise

the impossibility of making schools completely secure. The Wolverhampton school, for example, was regarded by officials as relatively secure with a site completely enclosed by walls and fences — and locks on inner, as well as outer, doors. Moreover, the vulnerability of schools can be exaggerated. There are 26,000 schools. Three have suffered life-threatening violence this year. Parents need to reassure their children of the low risk — far lower than walking along a road where five children a week die. Until Dunblane, only seven children under 16 were murdered a year. Children smoking behind the bike sheds are far more at risk; if they continue their habit into adulthood they stand a one in two chance of being killed by tobacco.

Even so, teachers, school governors and parents' associations are right to be angry at the inadequate response of ministers. No one wants schools to be turned into fortresses. Yet, just because no school can be made totally secure is no reason to delay pushing ahead with measures which could improve security. A long list of improvements was produced by the working party in May — better perimeter fences, closed circuit television surveillance for particularly vulnerable schools, fewer entry points. Ministers agreed to the package but have put off producing any funds until next year. More pledges to step up protection were uttered by the Prime Minister yesterday. Words are not enough. Cash is what is needed.

Chris Patten has a party

His eye is fixed upon the job — but which one exactly?

CHRIS PATTEN is governor of Hong Kong for another 366 days, and it is supposed to be a full-time job. To coin a phrase, he is still battling for Hong Kong — yet his performance on Monday in Brussels might suggest otherwise. Correspondents described him as serving notice that he would "join battle... for the soul of the party," and stake out a "leading role" in it. That is the Conservative Party in Britain, not the Democratic Party of Hong Kong, far less the Communist Party of China. The governor has his eye on his own future and he does not mind who knows it.

Mr Patten brought a welcome breath of fresh air to the job. Out went the peaked hat and the ceremonial sword, in came the pleasant family with highly-visible daughters and dogs. But there is a tradition to preserve. He has been wiser to preserve. As a servant of the Crown, Mr Patten should commit his undivided attention to the

task entrusted to him. (He is being paid enough, tax-free, for it). More to the point, as a servant of the Hong Kong people, he owes it to them.

Mr Patten may say that he cannot help answering questions about his future. But he is a skilled media manager and there is a very simple answer which he should be using now: "I'm sorry, but please save your questions till I board my yacht on July 1, 1997."

Mr Patten is seeking to gain visa-free access to the EU for Hong Kong residents. He hopes to goad jaded consciences in Britain so that we will not wash our hands of Hong Kong in a year's time. Rattling on about British politics merely blurs the message he is trying to make. There has been a similar tendency, in dealing with China, to say too much too publicly. He is a politician who stepped into a diplomat's shoes: Hong Kong's misfortune may be that it needed someone in between.

GROCCER'S LEFTWARD LURCH



Letters to the Editor

Motives of the marchers

DAVID Sharrock (Marching through history, July 8) has bought himself into the "demographic change" thesis to explain why the Orange Order insists on marching through Catholic areas. In this view, it is argued that population movement over the 27 years of conflict has shifted the sectarian geography of parade routes, so much so that marches once confined to Protestant areas now routinely pass Catholic ones, and that this originally unforeseen shift only causes trouble when "traditional" parade routes fail to adapt to changed circumstances.

The implication is that Orange marchers are innocent of any desire to intimidate Catholics; they just forget that areas once "true blue" have turned a deeper shade of nationalist green. This thesis is wrong on two counts. First, the sectarian alignment of community in Northern Ireland has actually resulted in a decrease in the number of "flashpoints" created when Orange march routes intersect Catholic communities. But the decline in sectarianism has resulted in a renewed determination on the part of marchers to make the most of the ones that remain.

Second, Orange marches are

principally rituals of domination. The whole point is to march through Catholic areas — to intimidate, provoke and humiliate. It's only "cultural" inasmuch as Protestant culture often translates as Protestant supremacy.

But it is not enough merely to feel superior in some diffuse way, one needs someone to feel superior to. Thus Catholics provide the victims without which the system cannot function. Even in its own premises, the "demographic change" thesis fails to explain anything, serving only as a seemingly "rational" argument trotted out by Orange supporters and apologists to defend their actions. Orangeism is ugly and vicious. Don't excuse it. Michael Morgan, Belfast BT11.

TO explain the situation during the marching season in the north of Ireland, let the people of this country imagine that the British National Party plans to march through Brixton in south London on an average of once every two weeks for three months, and that local residents are being asked to accommodate this. Margaret McMahon, Railton Road, London SE24.

THE time has come for the British and Irish governments to abandon the barbarians of Ulster. Peace and reconciliation (both of which are essential) can never be achieved while the bigots and gangsters of both sides continue their silly and dangerous games. I suggest the following plan be put into effect immediately:

- both governments issue a declaration of independence from Ulster;
- the EU agrees to take no interest in this bastard state;
- both governments share the cost of constructing and manning a fence between Ireland and Ulster and policing the waters around it;
- all transport links and all economic and cultural connections are severed.

Without money from the British taxpayer and support from IRA hardliners in the south, the country would quickly come to its senses. It may increase the suffering of innocent people, but has any one a better idea? H M Keegan, London N16.

Letters to the Editor may be faxed on 0171 837 4530 or sent by post to 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER, and by e-mail to letters@guardian.co.uk. We may edit them: shorter letters are more likely to appear.

Let's help George and Gillian get round their moral maze

GILLIAN Shepherd has decided that schools should inculcate in their young charges some notion of "morality". Quite apart from this being rather rich coming from one of the most amoral government ministers ever to be elected, this displays a fundamental lack of understanding of how, and for whom, schools work.

Schools differentiate in perceived "worth" of pupils also quite arbitrarily. A child may be overweight, dyslexic, deaf, black, working-class or any number of a host of things which teachers consider evidence of lack of worth; the idea that there is an objectively "good" pupil is entirely spurious.

I would hesitate even to support the idea that what schools offer is education, much less "moral" education. What schools offer is conditioning in the Pavlovian sense — children are forced into responding to bells at regular intervals like salivating dogs. What schools reward is not "goodness", nor even especially "intelligence"; they reward conformity. Whatever it is you are meant to be conforming to can be changed as often as "they" desire.

Schools operate mainly for parents (and, I would offer, politicians) who do not actually like their children very much. Education and morality appear very low on the hierarchy of schooling priorities. Andrew Marks, Dept of Sociology, University of Liverpool, Myrtle Street, Liverpool L69 3BX.

IT IS time for the non-religious (a majority, according to a recent poll) to be heard: why should our children have fictions and fables fed to them daily, as if they were unaccountable truths, when other parts of the curriculum (eg RE lessons) teach the need to take a critical approach? Non-believers and members of non-Christian faiths should use the present debate (Letters July 9) to begin a move to par religion where it belongs: in the private sphere, not in school assemblies.

Wrekin Churchesman, 20 Norrington Grove, Birmingham B31 5NY.

A Country Diary

THE WREKIN: Along the Ercall's dusky ridge, the closed oak canopy is only 20 feet high. Each of these old oaks, growing out of the rock, stunted and windswept, is a unique individual of gnarled beauty. The oaks on either flank of the ridge are taller, maintaining the line of canopy and sheltering a low understory of bilberry and bracken. Much of the Ercall was last coppiced in the 1920s by my great uncle, Alf Wilks. But old Alf left the oaks, as did his predecessors. Maybe he thought they were too runty to ever have commercial value. Maybe their strange, mysterious characters persuaded him to spare the axe.

THE Archbishop of Canterbury (Moral crusade by Carey, July 6) is guilty of two sins — one of omission and one of commission. The omission was of any unambiguous reference to the fundamental incompatibility between social decency and the modern god of free-market economics. The sin of commission lay in his insistence that "moral relativism" is at the heart of our current problems and that these can be solved by a return to Christian fundamentals. What we need most is indeed a language of unanimity, but formal religion, sectarian almost by definition, cannot provide this. Absolution leads to the morals of the Inquisition and of the Tel Aviv bus-bomber. Rob Holland, 7 Wistaria Close, Birmingham B31 1NP.

MOST Christians would agree that two aspects of our moral crisis require urgent attention: the undermining of marriage and the lack of respect for human life. Will Dr Carey therefore now put his own house (of bishops) in order? Will he lead his colleagues in the House of Lords in a campaign to reverse the laws on divorce and abortion? Such action would be more beneficial than the occasional pious exhortation. (Rev Fr) Francis Bown, St Stephen's Presbytery, 28 Westbourne Avenue, Kingston-upon-Hull, Yorkshire HU5 3EN.

The clue to the archbishop's little tantrum is surely in that figure of 10 per cent of the young who would turn to the Church for moral guidance. The huge majority, in other words, no longer wish to buy Dr Carey's snake oil.

The churches are patriarchal, homophobic, backward-looking institutions, apparently unable to distinguish between religion and morality. How about an apology for the way in which the churches have treated women? They've might all, young and old, respect him a bit more. Clare Barnbridge, University of the West of England, Colchour Lane, Bristol BS16 1QY.

IT IS wearisome to see Leviticus trotted out as justification for homophobia. The authors of Leviticus had it in for stonish too (don't eat them) but few evangelical clergy would refuse a prawn cocktail on that account. J M Farrington, 8 Hadland Terrace, West Cross, Swansea.

Gun law

ONE psychopath + one infant school + one gun = 17 dead. One psychopath + one infant school + one machete = 0 dead. "Guns don't kill. People do." (I never was very good at maths.) Roger O'Keefe, Magdalene College, Cambridge CB3 0AG.

DAVID Willetts's attack on the "Blair Eight" for being anti-British sits strangely with his enthusiastic description of the German social market in his own book *Modern Conservatism*, and of the lessons to be learned from Japan. And there is nothing British about Willetts's own guru, Hayek and Friedman. Does the nickname "two brains" have anything to do with a capacity for double-think or being two-faced? Lynne Armstrong, 18 Stanley Avenue, Portsmouth PO3 6PN.

REGARDING MP's pay: Princes and Princess Diana's divorce settlement, may I quote Benefits Agency document 1788-0102: "How much money the law says you need to live on each week: £28.80 for normal living expenses." Andrew Hanson, 3 Uwell Road, Swansea, Dorset BH15 1RY.

ANTHONY Sampson's rather peculiar article (The word from South Africa is love me, love my party July 8) contains the statement that "the Times had long supported Buthelezi through its correspondent, R W Johnson, biographer of Buthelezi's aide, the late Rowley Arenstein".

As Anthony perfectly well knows, I am not a supporter of Buthelezi. It is also untrue that Mr Arenstein was ever an aide to Buthelezi and nor have I written his biography, though I plan a larger work in which Arenstein — a Marxist-Leninist to his dying breath — will feature. The Times has never intimidated me that it supports Buthelezi: I would be extremely surprised to hear it.

R W Johnson, Helen Suzman Foundation, 10 Cradock Avenue, Sarlam Arena 3, Rosebank, Johannesburg, South Africa.



Hot and bothered over warming

I WAS distressed that John Mortimer (Sweaty socks in the sun-dried shirt, July 6) should have adopted his usual ironic tone when dealing with global warming. The flooding of the world's fertile, and often heavily-populated, deltas and a vast increase in the central arid regions of the globe are a high price to pay for the ability of Middle East leaders to bask in a deckchair in the back garden.

In the early 1990s, 250 leading scientists published a "warning to humanity" in which they opined that mankind has around 20 years to change its ways fundamentally or face disaster on a global scale — not least because of global warming. They did not command a whole page in the Guardian. Paul Gompertz, Director, Devon Wildlife Trust, 35-37 St David's Hill, Exeter, Devon EX4 4DA.

IF John Mortimer had looked a little further than his beloved Little England, he might have wondered if England is going to be like the Loire Valley, France with a Spain's climate, and Spain a series of deserts, what on earth is Africa going to be like. John Bainbridge, 4 Singley Close, Seaham, County Durham SR7 0LH.

IDO so hope John Mortimer enjoys global warming as much as he says he will. I can only hope he manages to embrace the skin cancer, flooding and new diseases with equal readiness. Jacob Yapp, 10 Blythe Hill, London SE6 4UJ.

Poorest nations of the world. John Gummer deserves praise not mockery for fulfilling his duty as Environment Secretary by spelling this out and preparing us for the inevitable necessity of us all having to make some serious adjustments to our lifestyles. Robin Maynard, Director, Local Campaigns, Friends of the Earth, 25 Underwood Street, London N1 7JQ.

IF John Mortimer had looked a little further than his beloved Little England, he might have wondered if England is going to be like the Loire Valley, France with a Spain's climate, and Spain a series of deserts, what on earth is Africa going to be like. John Bainbridge, 4 Singley Close, Seaham, County Durham SR7 0LH.

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Now take that, Blanche

MARK Simpson's attack on Gaytime TV (Provocations, July 8) was notable only for its tone of blind, bilious rage. The piece was punctuated by some astonishingly personal abuse directed at the show's presenters, Rhona Cameron and Bert Tyler-Moore, much of it about their appearance.

Does the Guardian think such abuse is editorially justified? And ought you not to have pointed out that Simpson himself was auditioned for a presenting role on the show? Simpson's real problem isn't so much with Gaytime TV as with the whole business of what he calls "gay identity". What a pity, then, that he should inadvertently have revealed himself as one of its most stereotyped manifestations: that of bitchy, jealous old queen. Neil Crombie, Series editor, Gaytime TV, Planet 24, Thanet Quay, 195 Marsh Wall, London E14 6SG.

PAUL EVANS

Diary Matthew Norman

THE phone rings, a fax arrives, another phone rings, the same fax emerges from another machine... yes, it's Peter Bottomley, the excitable MP for Eitham, in one of his states. This time, it's the report here yesterday that he asked for a "big fat fee" of £200 for appearing briefly on a TV show on Sunday. Whether the deal makes this unclear from the fax, even after repeated readings, for there is not a soul at this newspaper who speaks fluent Bottomley.

TROUBLE brews in the bitchy world of puzzle-setting. In his News of the World column, Michael Winner has set a conundrum — the old chestnut, in fact, about the man hurt in a crash in which his father dies who is taken to hospital, where the surgeon says: "I can't operate, he's my son". If you must have a clue, the puzzle relies heavily on the solver's inability to imagine such a thing as a female surgeon. Some may think it a little outlandish, but Michael Winner, who has written Gyles Brandreth, who used it in his OK! magazine puzzle page, Brandreth's Brainstorm, a fortnight ago. Gyles won't like it a bit, and he's not pretty when he's angry. Michael, for God's sake, admit the plagiarism and pray for mercy.

MEANWHILE, a fax arrives from Michael's employee, John Fraser MA (Oxon), MPhil. "I was a little modest when telling you of my experience with Mr Winner," he writes. "I actually worked for him first when we were at school together some 45 years ago." After school, Mr Fraser worked for him "part-time, joining him full-time in 1967". I make no apologies for spelling out the obvious to those who are concerned about ingesting shrimp through tap water — Thames Water has received 57 complaints this year — have been mixed. A spokeswoman for the Jewish Board of Deputies said: "We don't eat shellfish." However, Dean David Grynhaas, a rabbi with Kedassia, a kosher authority in Stamford Hill, confirmed that "all crustacea big enough to be seen by the naked eye" are strictly forbidden. The rabbi advised all concerned to "put a fine piece of cotton over the tap to act as a filter".

AM intrigued to see in the Times a large picture of the artist, Elgin, and his wife, Sally O'Sullivan with her dog Missie. Missie is a poodle. Sally's old man, meanwhile, is our old friend Charlie Wilson, now returned to his role as one of Monday's Monty Python's top Mirror Group henchmen after his hilarious stint editing the "Independent". So Gentleman Charlie's dog is a poodle. How well that fits the Glasgowian's own fully cultivated taste. Pictures of Charlie and Missie sharing quality time would be most welcome.

MIRACLE has occurred in South Australia. Elgin and his wife, Sally O'Sullivan, are making their way to a church in Yankalilla, Adelaide, after the priest described seeing an image of the Virgin Mary and child on the altar wall. "This has become a people's shrine," said the man who saw the vision, the Reverend Andrew Nutter.



Queen of Hearts is no longer on the cards

Commentary Catherine Bennett

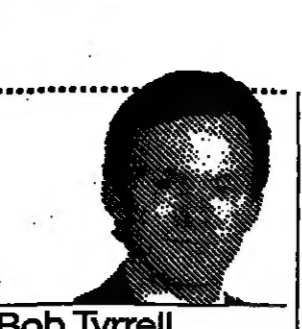
AS MISS Lorelei Lee once discovered, English introductions are a tricky business. "I mean some of the girls in London seem to be Ladies which seems to be the opposite of a Lord. And some who are not Ladies are honorable. But quite a few are not Ladies or honorable either. But are just like us, so all you have to call them is 'Miss'."

side the royal family there has been little demand for Diana to be de-highnessed, indeed her desire to keep every privilege conferred to her by marriage has been treated as the most reasonable thing in the world. The public no more expects Diana willingly to relinquish her status, than it expects the Queen to reject her sovereignty. Prince Charles to surrender his claim to the throne, or the hereditary peerage to troop anxiously from the House of Lords. On the contrary, the few peers and baronets who abjure their hereditary titles are subjected to more popular attention and hostility than those who mechanically accept. Tony Blair likes to tease the nobility with the occasional

Who would take a second gulp of Duchy Original if this horrid concoction were not manufactured by a prince?

trade against accidents of birth in the legislature. But one of the only firm statements in New Labour, New Life for Britain is the guarantee that Britain will continue to be a subject race. "We have no plans to replace the monarchy". Equally reassuring, for our five grades of peers, is the news that Blair's reformed House of Lords, will continue to use feudal titles, which can only sustain the credibility of the whole, antique system.

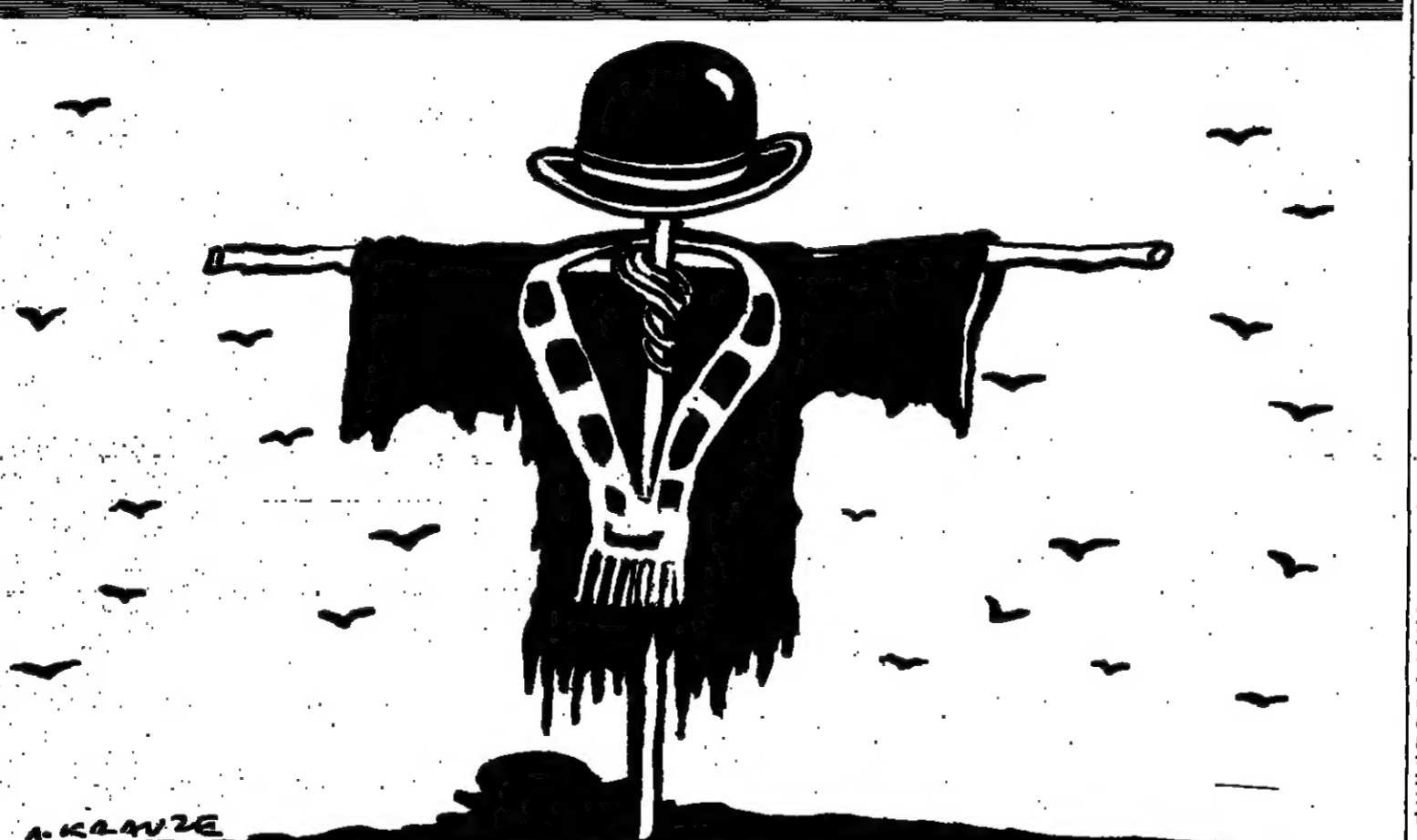
We need MPs to make a pay sacrifice



Bob Tyrrell

THIS evening MPs vote on their pay. The outcome could be a salary increase for the typical backbencher of almost 30 per cent, to £43,000. For the Prime Minister it could mean a rise from £24,000 to £43,000. From one point of view it is difficult to argue with these increases. MPs pay has not kept pace with inflation in the last 30 years, and the proposed increase would go only part of the way to restore its real level. Many MPs work 100-hour weeks and suffer enormous stress as a result of this and the constant public scrutiny. And it is becoming much harder to argue that there are the compensations of high status and public esteem associated with the job.

circulating, and by which people can feel rewarded. The social capital that acts as the buffer between the hard edges that exist in the social and economic systems is being depleted, and life will be less pleasant for its loss. This social capital is the stuff on which friendship is built and on which trust depends. There is a lot of it about when people use words like "vocation", "duty" and "loyalty" to describe why they behave as they do. You might say I sound like an old buffer. Think of the benefits that are all the time accruing from rational behaviour and transactional thinking. Without it we would still have public-sector bodies talking about "passengers" and "customers" as if they owned the people working in these organisations a living — and unresponsive to their needs as "customers". And the vocational callings, such as medicine, sport, teaching and so on, would still be allowing themselves to be down-trodden. And yet I still have worries about a society that tries too hard to organise itself on rational lines. We need to reassert their narrow, defined, monetary interests to reassert the legitimacy for the rest of us of acting from higher motives. A selfless gesture by MPs could prove a critical tactical move in a strategic agenda to rebuild our social capital.



This week's protestations of historical continuity by Orange Order marchers, argues Fintan O'Toole, have little to do with the past but everything to do with the present

Clockwork Orange

EIGHTY years ago this week, as the Portadown News reported three days later on July 15 1916, "for the first time within the recollection of the oldest Orangemen in Portadown, there was no demonstration in connection with the anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne". The local Orange lodges, complying with the request of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, cancelled their parade as a mark of respect for the men of the Ulster Division who were dying in their thousands at the Battle of the Somme. Instead, in a "very solemn and impressive" church service, the Orangemen prayed for the souls of the dead, reflected on their community's sense of irreparable loss, and went quietly home. They recognised, in other words, that there are circumstances in which it is much more important to keep faith with the present than to re-enact the past.

They could do this because, in spite of the horrors of the Somme, Ulster Protestantism in 1916 had a sense of identity and purpose vigorous enough not to be threatened by the mere absence of an annual parade. Eighty years later, the opposite is the case. The Orangemen of Portadown cannot agree even to a minor alteration in the route of their parade, because, in a real sense, the symbols of their religious and political faith are all they have left. This week, during the stand-off outside Portadown, Orangemen have spoken again and again about the importance of maintaining the

traditions: "We have been marching from that church for 189 years". They have painted themselves and their institution as historical automatons, clockwork men who were wound up 189 years ago and set in motion down the Garvaghy Road. The knowledge that violence and possibly death would result from their actions, and that, in the words of Ulster Unionist leader David Trimble, they were creating "a very dangerous situation" for the whole of Northern Ireland, could do nothing to alter a predestined tradition. This view of their own relationship to history has little to do with the past and everything to do with the present. If they had chosen genuinely to repeat the past, they might have done what their forefathers did in 1916, placing the needs of the present above the abstract pursuit of historical continuity. They might have changed their route to take account of the changed reality of sectarian geography, and acknowledged that the real tradition of the Orange Order itself is precisely one of adapting the symbols of the past to the needs of the present.

WHAT they constructed was an institution with two great strengths. One, embodied in initiation rituals and unmanly outsiders, is a way of giving a Biblical resonance to the often squalid realities of sectarian competition. Anthony Buckley of the Ulster Folk Museum, who has had more access to the secret rituals than most outsiders, notes that most of the Biblical texts used in them emphasise a common situation: "that of an individual or group living in a foreign land or among sinners or heathens". The texts included to be banners and in emblematic rituals "provide object lessons in how the Israelites and later

the Jews dealt with a very similar situation of having inherited a promised land which had hitherto belonged to somebody else". The ideal they inculcate is that of men who have been tried and tested, tempered for the hard struggle for survival in a harsh political landscape. The Garvaghy Road, to religious Orangemen, is a local version of the plains of Jericho. The other great strength of Orangeism is its ability to present an appearance of unity at times of division within both Ulster Protestantism and Ulster Unionism. It is easily forgotten that Protestantism in Ireland incorporates dozens of competing churches, and that it has often been riven with bitter divisions between Presbyterians and Episcopalians. The success of the Orange Order in mediating these divisions is the reason Orangemen are often completely sincere when they say that one of the pillars of their institution is religious tolerance. It is easy, watching the nakedly anti-Catholic bigotry on display at Portadown and elsewhere, to deride this as hypocrisy, but it has a foundation in fact. The Order really is experienced by many Protestants as a social space in which religious and class differences can be set aside. Behind the dogged insistence on preserving what are believed to be traditional Orange practices is the fear that, without the Order, Protestantism itself could collapse into a multitude of sects and factions. The danger of disunity, moreover, has seldom been so obvious. The once formidable monolith of Ulster Unionism

has fractured. At the elections for the Northern Ireland Forum in May, no fewer than five Unionist parties won seats. As well as the long-standing division between the Official and Democratic Unionists, there are now the two parties associated with the loyalist paramilitaries and Robert McCartney's secularising UK Unionists. The depth and ferocity of these divisions was on public display at the opening of the negotiations last month, with Paisley and McCartney accusing Trimble of setting out the Union, and the loyalist fringe parties accusing the other Unionist parties of conspiring to exclude them. Never before has Divisionism been so openly divided within itself. The appeal of the Orange Order as a symbol of Protestant and Unionist unity is, in this context, obvious. The rallying-call from Portadown may be based on a spurious notion even of Orange tradition itself, but it revivifies the simplifying myth of a steadfast people defending its ancient rights. David Trimble and others in the Unionist leadership must know how thin this illusion really is. Even if the Orangemen win, the price for victory — the futile gesture of walking down a street protected by ranks of armed policemen — is pathetic. When such symbols take on such importance for their own sake, it is clear that the confident unity of purpose they are meant to be symbols of really is a thing of the past.

Fintan O'Toole is a columnist with the Irish Times and author of Black Hole, Green Card: The Disappearance Of Ireland.

New Internationalist magazine

John doesn't get it

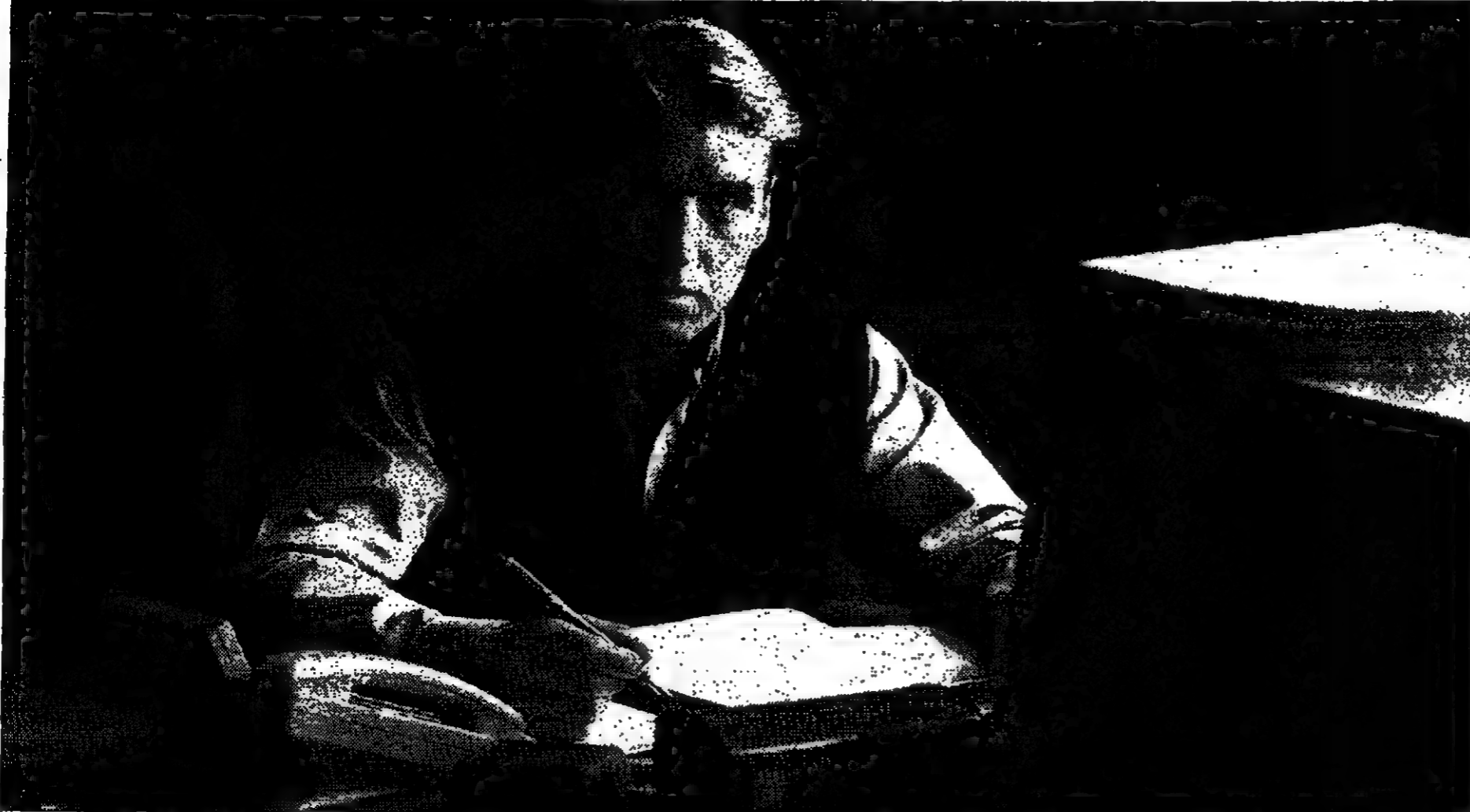


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Finance Guardian

COPPER CRISIS: 'I do not believe, in my heart, that there is any scandal here,' insists £15m-a-year commodities trader. PAUL MURPHY and PATRICK DONOVAN report



Vincent denounces jealousy of the 'character assassins'

CHARLES Vincent, £15 million-a-year co-owner of Winchester Commodities, claims he is the victim of a "cynical character assassination" attempt. Although questions have been raised about alleged links between Winchester and Yasuo Hamanaka, the chief metal trader at Sumitomo who was sacked after the discovery of unauthorised trading losses running to more than \$1 billion (£640 million), Mr Vincent says: "I do not believe, in my heart, that there is any scandal here."

He continues: "I could be completely wrong, but I know Hamanaka to be an honourable man... I will be very sad if what is alleged proves to be the case."

Speaking to the Guardian from Monte Carlo for the first time since this newspaper revealed six months ago that Winchester was under investigation by the Securities and Futures Authority, Mr Vincent cites the "British disease" of knocking anyone who rises above the norm: "If you are successful, if you create something from scratch, you are immediately seen as controversial." No action was taken by the SFA as a result of its inquiries.

Mr Vincent says he is spending time establishing a charitable foundation. "I enjoy working with children that perhaps don't have the chances that I have today. They know the heart and soul I have as a man."

Winchester has certainly been successful — and controversial. In two years (to spring last year) Mr Vincent and his business partner, Ashley Levett, paid themselves £25 million apiece — profits drawn, in part, from their dealings with Mr Hamanaka.

"Sitting where I am sitting now and knowing what I know, which is obviously substantial, I have never seen any-

thing untoward," Mr Vincent says. "The SFA has been trying since autumn 1994 to find out exactly what Mr Vincent does know. Initially, the regulator's concerns centred around a single transaction, involving \$3 billion or more of copper, struck in summer 1993 between Winchester and Sumitomo. The transaction has become known as the "Radr deal".

"Mr Vincent said he wanted to right some wrongs, to clear up some mis-reporting of this transaction. "Radr", he said, was the codename for Winchester's own trading position. Sumitomo had, in effect, arranged to buy in excess of 1 million tonnes of copper over three years through Credit Lyonnais Rouse — a London Metal Exchange member which acted as Winchester's "clearing broker" settling Winchester bargains on the LME.

Winchester (a client of Rouse and an "introducing broker") was the counterparty to this \$3 billion trade, going "short" by more than 1 million tonnes. Mr Vincent said "Mags", another Winchester codename previously thought

to be part of the Radr deal, "was another account for a completely unrelated deal".

"I don't know whether the trade was authorised or unauthorised — that's a Sumitomo affair. But what I do know is that Rouse and Winchester operated, in conjunction with the SFA, completely above board."

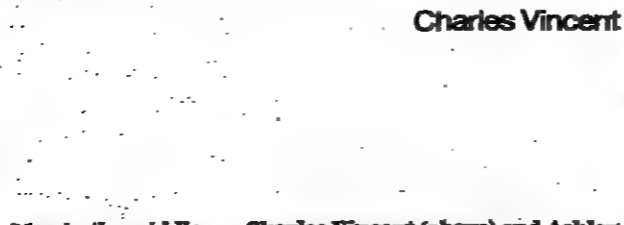
Mr Vincent said that while the SFA may have taken months looking into the Radr deal, suspecting it might have been structured to land Winchester a guaranteed multi-million pound pay-off, the regulator was informed about the transaction before it was even struck. "The SFA were completely aware of the transaction we were doing. Rouse went to the SFA and said, 'How should we margin this?' before it had even been executed."

Many months later, the SFA declared that Winchester had done nothing wrong. The market whippers have not gone away. Mr Vincent has read all the allegations in the press to him, any mention of "brown envelopes" is "incredible".

"We were unwinding that transaction for several months, it was a large transac-

'Winchester has been enormously successful, and why has that happened? It is because they put their balls on the line to trade'

Charles Vincent



Men in the middle... Charles Vincent (above) and Ashley Levett (right) paid themselves £25 million each in the space of just two years. PHOTOGRAPHER: SOLENT AND NEWS TEAM

Notebook Ken's sleeve is not empty yet



Editied by Alex Brummer

THE City is becoming acclimatised to missed forecasts for government borrowing. Having twice had to sharply revise its borrowing requirements last year (in the summer forecast and the 1995 Budget) the Treasury is at it again.

Its pessimistic projections for the public finances — despite some slightly generous growth assumptions for this year and next — have again undermined the prospects for pre-election tax cuts, if the Major administration limps on through the Budget. It also means that a new Labour government, committed to financial and national security orthodoxy, may have little flexibility — utility taxes or not — to deliver the improved education and health services which voters have customarily expected of their party.

The deterioration in the public finances, were they delivered by an unproven Labour Administration, might be enough to provoke problems on the financial markets. Fortunately, from Chancellor Ken Clarke's point of view the Tories are still, able to finesse matters.

In the last financial year, the PSBR, the difference between what the government collects and spends, was £2.3 billion higher than forecast in the last Budget; this year the overshoot is put at £4.5 billion rising to a worrying £8.1 billion in 1997-98 when the deficit will be £23.1 billion.

There are two reasons why public finances have failed to move more towards balance even though the UK is now in its fifth year of economic expansion. First, like the PSBR, the forecast for output, growth appears to be written through rose tinted glasses. This year, at best, growth is now expected to be 2.5 per cent which is three-quarters of a point less than projected in the November Budget and still ahead of most private sector forecasts.

Next calendar year, perhaps with some more justification as real personal incomes rise, growth is seen at 3.25 per cent. To reach this, however, will require a sharp lift in consumer expenditure by 4.5 per cent, the kind of increase which UK boom which in the past has had serious balance of payments and inflationary consequences.

The second problem for the PSBR has been the shortfall in receipts at a time when, remarkably, expenditure has been kept within the control totals set in the public spending round. But the tax situation has been rather different.

All three major groups of tax collections — income tax, corporation tax and VAT — are sharply down. In 1995-96, the biggest shortfall on corporation tax appears to be partly due to some technical

errors, although with company profits now starting to moderate there is no reason to look forward to strong recovery here.

The VAT shortfall of \$9.9 billion is more mystifying in that VAT in relation to increased consumer spending has been dropping, perhaps suggesting that this form of taxation has reached saturation levels. Finally, income tax also fell short by £2.8 billion, adding to the PSBR overshoot.

There is a theory that the Treasury having been wrong in its tax estimates in the 1995-96 financial year has been overcautious in its collection estimates for the two years ahead, thus giving itself room for some surprise tax cuts in November. Perhaps, but missing tax receipts together with privatisation shortfalls could become habit-forming.

It might have been thought that the worsening of government finances, with an increased requirement for debt issues, might have thrown the markets off course. But not a bit of it.

The view is that in order to meet the ambitious growth forecasts, the Chancellor, inhibited on fiscal policy, will have some further base rate cuts up his sleeve and will exercise his monetary prerogative despite the reservations of the Bank of England. But the bond rally could quickly snuff itself out should signs of a typical UK end of cycle boom emerge.

Granada games

THE DTT's decision not to refer Granada's acquisition of Fortis to the MMC looks predictable enough.

However, Ian Lang's announcement also is good news for Granada, in that it now has the date it wanted — April 30 next year — by when it has to sell the 21 Welcome Break motorway services it acquired as part of the deal.

Under the deal Fortis struck with Whitbread, announced as part of its defence package, if Welcome Break was subsequently sold for a higher price than Whitbread had been prepared to pay, then Whitbread would receive half of the difference, so long as Granada sold the business on before the end of the year.

Mr Lang's decision now means Granada has effectively been given the green light to bring the sale out at least until the end of the year thus depriving Whitbread of a windfall. A satisfying outcome for Granada which resented Whitbread's intervention on Sir Rocco Forte's side.

While this is cheering for Granada, it does mean that it will have a virtual monopoly on motorway services in the meantime, controlling 95 out of a total 70. This may be less advantageous for the consumer despite some price controls.

Similarly, the way in which Granada has dragged its heels in giving an undertaking to the Office of Fair Trading on the sale of Welcome Break also looks cynical. Granada had every interest in prolonging its monopoly for as long as possible.

Polygram heads bids for studio of the stars at MGM

Mark Tran in New York

THE auction of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, once Hollywood's most glamorous studio, reaches a climax tomorrow as contenders put their best bids on the table.

"It's time to get real," said one executive close to MGM, hoping the last round in this poker game will push the bidding beyond \$1 billion (£600 million).

The winner is almost certain to come from Dutch group Polygram, Rupert Murdoch's News Corp or Morgan Creek-Safari. The last two originally put in separate bids but pooled their efforts to mount a more credible effort.

Morgan Creek has the backing of Warner Bros, Time Warner's film studio, and Safari is a consortium comprising Capella Films and leveraged buy-out firm Rockport Partners, which is led by former Drexel Burnham Lambert strategist Peter Ackerman.

The bids are thought to range from News Corp's \$1 billion to the highest bid of \$1.4 billion. Polygram is said to have emerged as the leading candidate to take MGM off its present owner, crisis-ridden French bank Credit Lyonnais. Polygram has a strong financial position, has no net debt and plenty of borrowing capacity to finance the deal.

It also needs a studio if it is to become a leading entertainment player.

Formed in 1924, MGM was once Hollywood's biggest and richest film studio boasting stars such as Greta Garbo, Clark Gable and Jean Harlow.

TOURIST RATES — BANK SELLS

Australia 1.9900	France 7.7575	Italy 2.390	Singapore 2.14
Asia 0.615	Germany 2.2075	Japan 16.525	South Africa 8.54
Belgium 47.28	Greece 364.00	Netherlands 2.9900	Spain 168.00
Canada 2.0775	Hong Kong 11.72	New Zealand 2.20	Sweden 10.250
Cyprus 0.7000	India 54.75	Norway 9.57	Switzerland 1.025
Denmark 6.8550	Ireland 0.9450	Portugal 207.00	Turkey 123.061
Finland 7.7150	Iraq 4.9	Saudi Arabia 5.76	USA 1.5178

Supplied by Reuters Bank (excluding Indian rupee and Israeli shekel).

Pilkington glass full up Meter plans in hot water

SIR Antony Pilkington, former chairman of Britain's biggest glassmaker, received a one-off payment of £350,000 on his retirement, according to the group's annual report published yesterday.

The payment, which was made in respect of untaken leave and which included a "terminal bonus", brought his total pay to £473,000.

But because Sir Antony retired on July 20 last year, and because Pilkington's financial year starts on April 1, that figure was effectively for less than four months work.

This compares with the

£485,000 he received for the whole of the previous financial year.

Sir Antony, a fifth generation member of the family which founded Pilkington in 1836, was with the company for 36 years. He became an executive director in 1973 and chairman in 1980, and was responsible for successfully defending Pilkington against the hostile bid from BTR in 1987.

Pilkington also revealed that it had paid the £30,000 salary of Sir Nigel Rudd, replacement, Sir Nigel Rudd, directly to his main employer, Williams Holdings. Sir Nigel, who is Pilkington's first non-executive chairman, was the first chairman to

come from outside the founding family and Pilkington.

At the same time, Pilkington's chief executive, Roger Levett, saw his total pay package jump from £432,000 to £447,000, despite a reduction in his annual bonus payment.

The disclosures came as Pilkington announced the sale of its loss-making contact lens business, Pilkington Barnes Hind, to America's Wesley Jessup Corporation for \$75 million (£51 million).

In a statement, Pilkington said the sale would complete his withdrawal from his Visioncare activities and that the proceeds would be used to reduce group debts.

Pilkington shares closed down 3p at 182p.

Rebecca Smithers and Chris Harris

THE Consumers' Association last night threatened to challenge the Government in the courts over its alleged plans to introduce water metering.

Speaking after a heated Commons debate in which ministers were accused of coming close to acting illegally, CA director Sheila McKechin told MPs on the all-party parliamentary water group that the organisation was considering whether to force a judicial review of government policy on meters.

Ms McKechin's threat followed accusations by shadow

environment secretary Frank Dobson that industry regulator Ian Byatt was promoting metering so excessively "that he may be breaking the law".

Mr Dobson accused ministers of following a "hidden agenda" to promote metering.

Environment Secretary John Gummer insisted the Government was not in favour of compulsory water metering.

He claimed Labour was pursuing "a few short-term votes by fundamentally anti-environmental policies".

The parliamentary clash came as consumer representatives from the Office of Water Services (Ofwat) said bills would be forced up if the European Commission enacts

three directives under consideration.

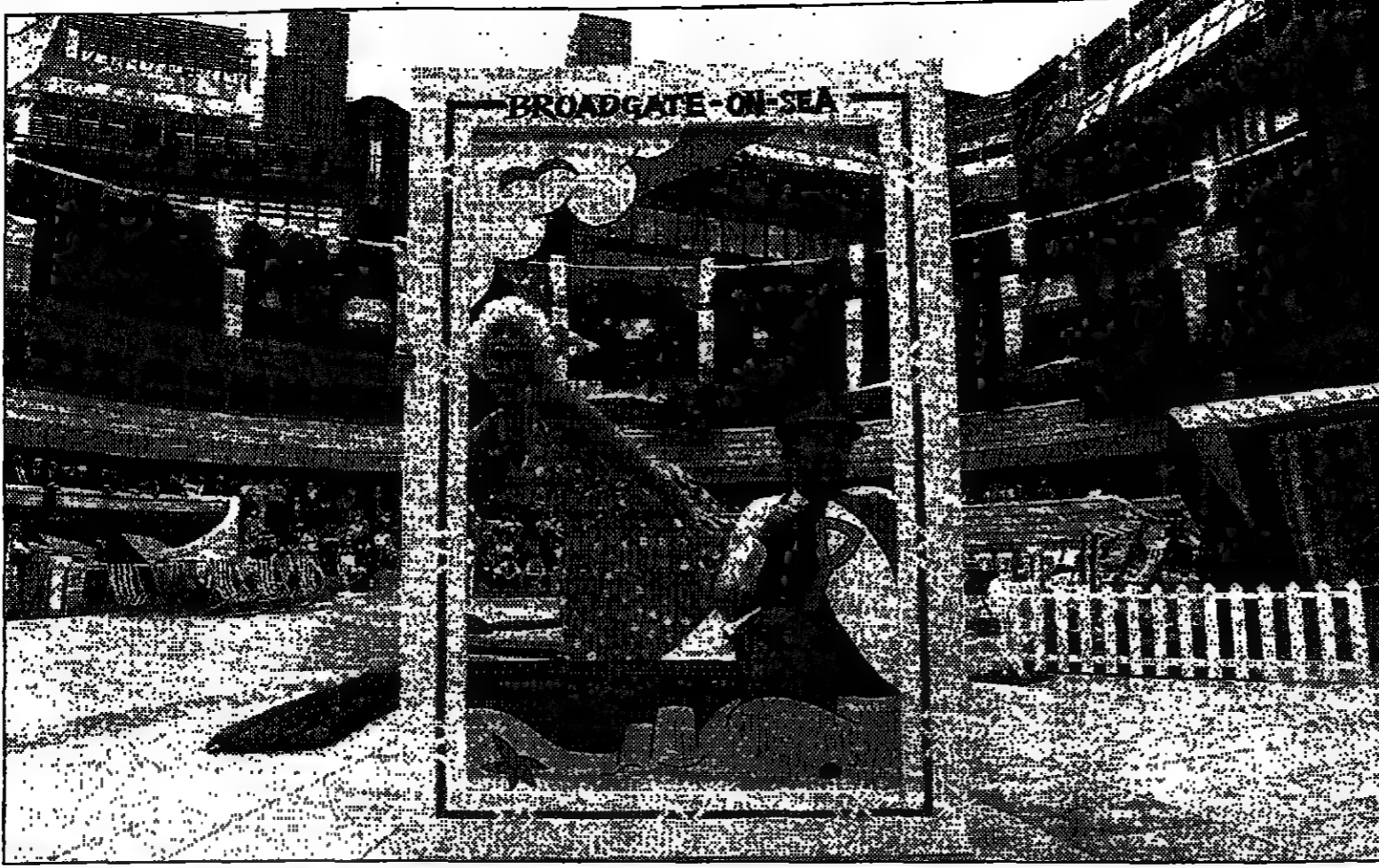
In its annual report, Ofwat's National Customer Council said a revised drinking-water directive could land water companies with a £2 billion bill for the replacement of lead pipes. A directive to improve bathing water would force up the costs of water companies with coastal waters. A "water resources framework directive" is also said to be a possibility and could raise costs further.

Estimating that household bills would rise by £5.30 a year on average to fund the drinking-water law, the council said consumer interests ought to be better represented in Brussels.

12 FINANCE AND ECONOMICS

Seaside sauce in the City

OFFICE workers enjoyed a dose of seaside sauce yesterday when the National Theatre Company transformed the Broadgate Arena in the City of London into a seedy coastal resort.



PHOTOGRAPH: KIPPA MATTHEWS

All out at Inward as entire board prepares to quit

Martyn Halsall and Simon Beavis

THE entire board of Inward, the flagship investment agency for the North-west, is set to resign as part of radical restructuring. The move follows claims that it has failed to attract major overseas companies to the region.

Summer forecast reveals Chancellor struggling to reach downgraded growth targets

Clarke 'must cut interest rates'

Barrie Ryle

THE City was last night getting up for another cut in interest rates after the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, tried to put an optimistic gloss on a downward revision to his growth forecast for 1997.

Table titled 'Latest prospects' showing percentage change on previous year for various economic indicators like GDP, investment, and exports.

The four reductions since the Budget and said the Government was on course to hit its 2.5 per cent inflation target by the end of this year, forecasting a further fall to 2.25 per cent next year.

Making most of misfortune

Larry Elliott Economics Editor

CHANCELLOR Kenneth Clarke had three separate targets in his sights when he bowed to the inevitable yesterday and increased his forecasts for public borrowing this year and next.

Germany struggles, too

Ian Traynor in Bonn

GERMAN finance minister Theo Waigel today presents next year's crucial budget to Chancellor Helmut Kohl's cabinet. It will cut spending by 2.5 per cent and aim for a 2.5 per cent budget deficit next year.

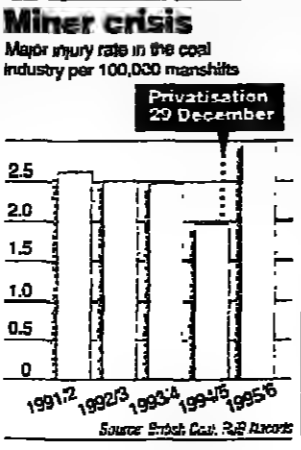
monetary union will hinge not on his federal budget but on whether the 16 federal states also tighten their belts sufficiently to keep state debt and deficits within Maastricht criteria.

Big rise in serious mining accidents

Workforce/ NUM anger as figures reveal 'legacy of privatisation', reports Seamus Milne

THE proudest boast of Britain's nationalised coal industry was to have created the safest and most advanced mining in the world, in striking contrast to the pre-war death traps run by private owners.

mining deaths. While the jump in fatalities could be regarded as a tragic blip, the rise in major injuries from 185 to 169 in an industry now employing fewer than 10,000 miners is more difficult to explain away.



Beated debate... Miner Phil Thatcher demands fair deal for coal at a Commons lobby yesterday

News in brief

Deutsche Bank in four-way split

DEUTSCHE Bank, pressured by shareholders to put profits first, is splitting its business into four separate units in a reshuffle that will give top management more power.

Lloyds Chemists warning

LLOYDS Chemists, Britain's second biggest pharmaceuticals retailer, yesterday said that profits would fall during the second half of its financial year as a result of uncertainty caused by the DTT's referral of the two bids for it to the Monopolies Commission.

Budgets triples profits

SOUTH-EAST supermarket chain Budgets reported tripled profits to £7.6 million for the year to the end of April. The chain continued the pattern of the first half with sales growth in comparable stores of 4.5 per cent and a 3 per cent inflation.

L&G sells arm to rival

LEGAL & General has sold its commercial general insurance operation to rival Guardian Royal Exchange for £48 million. The acquisition will be backdated to January 1 and will result in the financial responsibility for the policies and that policyholders.

Menzies slides

EDINBURGH-based newsagent John Menzies reported a 5.7 per cent slide in pre-tax profits for the year ended May 4 at £35.9 million. The market has expected the decline following a profits warning from the company in January.

Eurocamp in the red

HOLIDAY operator Eurocamp reported a £5.2 million pre-tax loss for the first half of the year, compared to a £3.3 million loss last year. The loss reflected the seasonal nature of the company's core camping business.

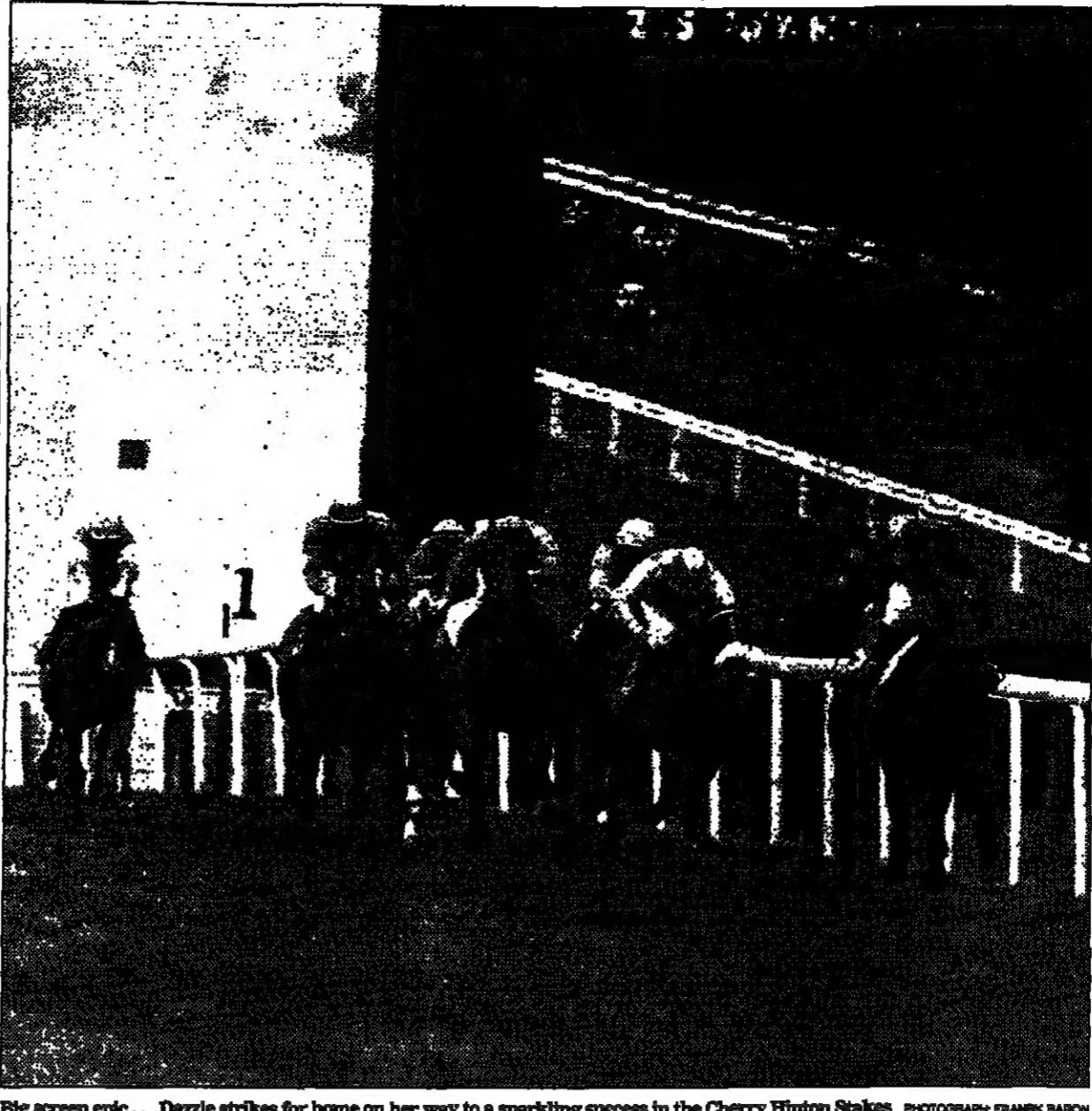
Racing

Dazzle dash earns 7-1 Guineas quote

Chris Hawkins
INITIAL offers of 14-1 for next year's 1,000 Guineas about Dazzle, who bolted home yesterday's Cherry Hinton Stakes at Newmarket, prompted a stampede among value-seeking punters and Ladbrokes were forced to make the filly as short as 7-1 favourite by the end of the day.

Kieren Fallon had little more than a steering job on Dazzle, who was always centering and shot through a gap on the rails a furlong and a half out to beat Ocean Ridge by five lengths.

By the filly's breeding as hard as her training, won over a mile as a two-year-old. Perhaps the main attractions of this meeting, particularly for the aficionados, is the two-year-old racing and John Dunlop introduced a potentially top colt in Bahhare to win the Strutt & Parker Maiden Stakes.



Big screen epic... Dazzle strikes for home on her way to a sparkling success in the Cherry Hinton Stakes. PHOTOGRAPH: FRANK BARON

Going right for Deadly Dudley

AFTER flopping at Royal Ascot, Deadly Dudley is not a far-named reputation in today's TNT International Aviation July Stakes at Newmarket, writes Chris Hawkins. Firm ground at the Royal meeting - where he finished third to Verglas in the Coventry Stakes - was probably against this colt, who had won impressively at Goodwood and Sandown previously when there was give underfoot.

Newmarket runners and riders with TV form

Table listing runners and riders for various races at Newmarket, including race numbers, names, and TV channel information.

Channel 4

Table of race results for Channel 4, listing race numbers, names, winners, and other details.

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Kempton tonight

Table listing runners and riders for various races at Kempton, including race numbers, names, and TV channel information.

Channel 4

Table of race results for Channel 4 at Kempton, listing race numbers, names, winners, and other details.

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Table of race results for Channel 4 at Kempton, listing race numbers, names, winners, and other details.

Worcester (NH) tonight

Table listing runners and riders for various races at Worcester, including race numbers, names, and TV channel information.

Channel 4

Table of race results for Channel 4 at Worcester, listing race numbers, names, winners, and other details.

Channel 4

Table of race results for Channel 4 at Worcester, listing race numbers, names, winners, and other details.

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Channel 4

Table of race results for Channel 4 at Worcester, listing race numbers, names, winners, and other details.

Results

Table of race results for various tracks, including Kempton and Worcester, listing race numbers, names, winners, and other details.

RACELINE logo and contact information for a racing information service, including phone numbers and website details.

Cricket

Asian tiger tweaks Lord's by the tail

David Hopps on the Indian millionaire who is looking to give the sport its lead

IN THE eyes of Jagmohan Dalmiya, the 1996 World Cup was a triumphant step in his pursuit of power. As secretary of the organising committee, his ruthless manipulation had ensured that the tournament would be the greatest financial bonanza in cricket history.

Dalmiya was convinced that his fitness for one of world cricket's most influential positions, chairman of the International Cricket Council, had been proved beyond measure. A recognition that the ICC should possess greater authority offered him the prospect of wielding considerable influence.

Dalmiya's opponents viewed the 1996 World Cup in less complimentary light. "Send me a fax," he airily told a World Cup umpire who drew attention to one problem. "Send you a bloody fax!" came the reply. "You never bloody answer them!" Many sympathised with the outburst.

If Dalmiya, through a combination of legal submissions and an assiduous courtship of cricket's minor nations, is elected as ICC chairman at Lord's over the next two days, he stands to forge a reputation over the next four years as one of the greatest power-brokers in sport, a name to mention alongside those of Havalange, Nehiolo and Samaranch. The major changes that he envisages would blow away the last vestiges of cricketing complacency.

Sensing a declining interest in Test cricket throughout Asia, he would seek to reduce drab draws by introducing an overs limit in the first innings. The ICC, cosily housed in the clock tower at Lord's, might move to Dalmiya's power-base in Calcutta.

Globalisation of the game, actively discouraged for much of the century, would begin at a disturbing pace, doubtlessly strengthening that power-base in the process. The ICC has been established almost 90 years and has only nine full members, he insisted last week on the Radio 5 Live programme, Mugs. "The game of cricket

must be globalised. I have already demonstrated that it is possible."

That demonstration encompasses the Asia Cup in Malaysia in September, including such unlikely entrants as Japan, Thailand and Papua New Guinea, followed by the Friendship Cup later that month in the Toronto Skydome in Canada, the first of five annual one-day tournaments between India and Pakistan which he insists will tap an unexpected market.

Dalmiya's independence and strength were underlined at 19 years old when his father refused to sanction his marriage to a Bengali. Dalmiya left home, a courageous response in the 1970s, when the tradition of arranged marriages was rarely challenged. His wife became a motivating force. Dalmiya was encouraged to move into construction and, from virtually nothing, became a millionaire builder in Calcutta. His cricketing career was limited to sporadic appearances for the Rajasthan club in Calcutta.

India's staging of the Nehru Cup in 1989 announced his breakthrough as an administrator. Along with Indrajit Bhindra, he persuaded the prime minister, Rajiv Gandhi, to remove control of the tournament from the Indian Board. The tournament was a success and the reputations of Dalmiya and Bhindra were assured.

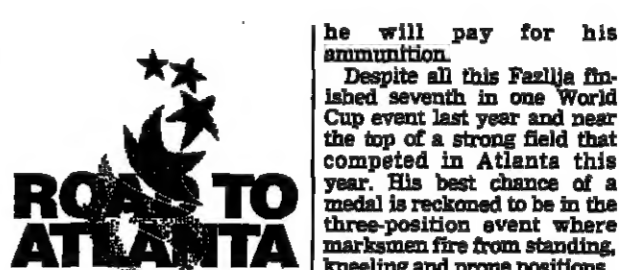
Vote-buying is commonplace in Indian cricket — patronage might take the form of an international fixture, a job as a tour manager, or a place on a select committee — but both men prospered. They dovetailed impressively: Bhindra, as Board president, is regarded as a master of public relations; Dalmiya is a skilful and calculating negotiator. Their mentor is MKP Saive, a former Congress minister who never forgave Lord's for refusing him tickets to the 1989 World Cup final between India and the West Indies at Lord's. At that moment, perhaps, a hostility towards old imperialist attitudes began.



Gunning for glory ... Nedžad Fazlija (right) and Tarik Hodzic in the Olympic village with the Atlanta skyline behind them

Friendly fire from Bosnia

All over the South Olympians are preparing for the greatest show on earth. The Croatians have landed in Tupelo, Mississippi, the Chinese are in Greenville, South Carolina, and the Moldovans are dreaming of glory in Douglasville, Georgia. For the first of a special series of reports on how the world is gearing up for Atlanta, Ian Katz visits Pell City, Alabama, to meet Bosnia's best prospect for a medal



he will pay for his ammunition. Despite all this Fazlija finished seventh in one World Cup event last year and near the top of a strong field that competed in Atlanta this year. His best chance of a medal is reckoned to be in the three-position event where marksmen fire from standing, kneeling and prone positions. Adding to the emotional baggage the Bosnians will carry into the Games, several faces competing against former Yugoslav team-mates-turned-enemies. Fazlija says he has already come up against three Serbian and one Slovenian former team-mates. "I talk normally with those [Serb] people but I know what they think about me and they know what I think about them. It's not easy to speak with these people if you know that some of them shot in my city and killed 11,000 citizens of Sarajevo, 2,000 of them children."

NEDZAD FAZLIJA is almost certainly the finest marksman in Bosnia but he does not ask him how many enemy soldiers he picked off during his country's ferocious civil war. "I'm a sportsman, not a sniper," he says.

The wiry, bespectacled 28-year-old has grown tired of explaining the distinction but over the next few weeks he will have to do it often; by one of those ironies that conjures a smile from the bleakest of circumstances, he is Bosnia's best prospect for a medal at the Olympics. For the past two weeks Fazlija and seven other Bosnian competitors have been training in this tiny town, a place so sleepy and unremarkable that motel clerks ask not how long you are staying but how long you are stuck. Desperate for a slice of the Olympic action that will unfold in Atlanta, 100 miles east, the burghers of Pell City subjected their war-weary visitors to a crash course in southern hospitality. They built an Olympic-standard shooting range for Fazlija and bought a table tennis

table for Tarik Hodzic and a competition-quality wrestling mat for Fahrudin Hodzic. To ease communication they re-christened each athlete with a "Southern Nickname". Fazlija became Ned, Tarik Hodzic became Terry and Fahrudin Hodzic was Rhody. The swimmer Djana Kvesic will be forever known here as Lady D.

Since the penniless Bosnians were only able to compete in Atlanta because of a grant from the International Olympic Committee, local families put them up and every restaurant in town vied to introduce them to fried chicken and grits. "They said they liked our grease," said Brenda Hamby, a restaurateur who co-ordinated the effort to feed the Olympians. If the arrival of the Bosnian team was the biggest thing to happen to Pell City since the high school girls' basketball team won the state championships in 1995, the Atlanta Olympics held a monumental significance for those who will compete in the country's blue and white colours. "To represent Bosnia-Herzegovina after all these tragic years is not only to represent

a country but to represent all those people who died for freedom," says Hodzic. Although a Bosnian team was spirited to Barcelona in 1992, says Fazlija's coach Dautovic Amir, "that was important just to see our flag. This time we've had time to choose and take care of our athletes."

Fazlija represented Yugoslavia 12 times in international shooting events before the country splintered along ethnic lines in 1992. Two weeks before hostilities broke out in his Sarajevo club won the national championships. "Maybe that was the reason the war started in Bosnia," he suggests with a thin smile. Within months Sarajevo's sparkling Zetra sports centre, built for the 1984 Winter

Olympics, was destroyed by artillery fire and with it went Fazlija's hopes of keeping his skills sharp. It seems natural to wonder if the embattled Bosnian army sought to harness Fazlija's rare talent but he bristles at the suggestion. He will say only that he served as a reserve policeman in Sarajevo and lost an uncle and a cousin in the fighting. The Bosnian athletes are similarly reticent about their own ethnicity, stressing only that the team has members from each of Bosnia's three ethnic groups.

Fazlija managed to compete outside Bosnia a handful of times during the war, first escaping Sarajevo by running across the city's airport under the eyes of Serb snipers and later by using the secret tunnel that Sarajevans used to beat the siege of the city. But he says his skills have been badly blunted by lack of competition and resources. Until last month, when he received three new weapons from a sponsor, he was competing with a 55-year-old rifle. The people here bought him 5,000 bullets, but after the Olympics he has no idea how

many enemy soldiers he picked off during his country's ferocious civil war. "I'm a sportsman, not a sniper," he says. The wiry, bespectacled 28-year-old has grown tired of explaining the distinction but over the next few weeks he will have to do it often; by one of those ironies that conjures a smile from the bleakest of circumstances, he is Bosnia's best prospect for a medal at the Olympics. For the past two weeks Fazlija and seven other Bosnian competitors have been training in this tiny town, a place so sleepy and unremarkable that motel clerks ask not how long you are staying but how long you are stuck. Desperate for a slice of the Olympic action that will unfold in Atlanta, 100 miles east, the burghers of Pell City subjected their war-weary visitors to a crash course in southern hospitality. They built an Olympic-standard shooting range for Fazlija and bought a table tennis

but did not call again. "We have too little time to order a new bike," said Gil's coach, Jan Mela. "Besides, we do not have money." Kenyan athletes were yesterday warned by Kip Keino, the vice-president of their Olympic committee, that they may be overlooked for Atlanta unless they report for training. His ultimatum came after a group decided to compete in Europe this week instead of joining the team in Mississippi. The athletes were originally told to report by Sunday but that deadline was extended because visas did not come through in time.

England v India final scoreboard

Table with 2 columns: Player and Score. Includes players like V. Kohli, S. Tendulkar, and R. Dravid.

Lord's refuses to name Sussex player who failed drug test

THE TCCB is refusing to identify a Sussex player said to have taken drugs, even though his second test was also confirmed yesterday as positive, writes David Hopps. Richard Little, the Board's public relations manager, also declined "for ongoing legal reasons" to confirm the widespread presumption that the drug involved was recreational cannabis. The player now has 14 days to prepare his defence before a TCCB panel, at which point his identity might be revealed. The panel, which will be headed by the Nottinghamshire chairman Alan Wheel-

Malcolm catches Mandela

DERBYSHIRE must fancy their chances at home to Kent in the second round of the NatWest Trophy today, but Devon Malcolm will instead make his way to 10 Downing Street, where he will renew acquaintance with President Nelson Mandela, writes Chris Curtain. Derbyshire have taken a more positive line with their man than Raymond Illingworth ever did, and are happy for Malcolm to accept the Prime Minister's invitation to shake his hero's hand again. "Devon goes with the blessing of our captain Dean Jones" said the county secretary Rag Taylor. "It is a unique opportunity and we do not feel we can deny it him."

Christie rejoins gold rush

DISNEY CHRISTIE gets back on the gold trail in Nice tonight when he takes on the world champion Donovan Bailey over 100 metres in his 28th race of a hectic summer. The 36-year-old Olympic champion pulled out of the lucrative Oslo meeting last week with hamstring problems. But Kelly Holmes, the double world championships medalist, has withdrawn from the 800m after missing the 1500m in Stockholm on Monday night with sinusitis. It means she will have to make the "biggest decision" of her life without completing her planned racing schedule to help her decide on one or both distances in Atlanta. But a comprehensive 1500m defeat in Oslo by Ireland's world 5,000m champion Sonia O'Sullivan, who will double up in those two events, may have helped make up her mind anyway. Holmes will watch Nice with interest as the Olympic champion Hassiba Boulmerka, who beat her in the 1500m in Gothenburg last summer, makes one of her rare appearances this season. The Algerian will clash with the in-form Carla Sacramento in the metric mile. The Portuguese woman defeated

Cyclist hopping mad as thief runs off with his mountain bike

POLAND's three-man mountain-biking team for Atlanta was yesterday reduced to two after one of their leading hopes had his cycle stolen. The theft occurred when Dariusz Gil was practicing in the southwestern Polish town of Karpacz. Local papers said he turned his back for a few minutes after getting off his bike to talk to another cyclist and turned round to find his machine gone. The bike was purpose-built and unless it is returned he will not be able to start in Atlanta. The thief later phoned Gil to demand a £1,700 ransom.

Table with 2 columns: Player and Score. Includes players like M. Atherton, S. Cook, and J. Stanger.

Advertisement for NatWest with the headline 'No one's playing in the NatWest Trophy now.' and the NatWest logo.

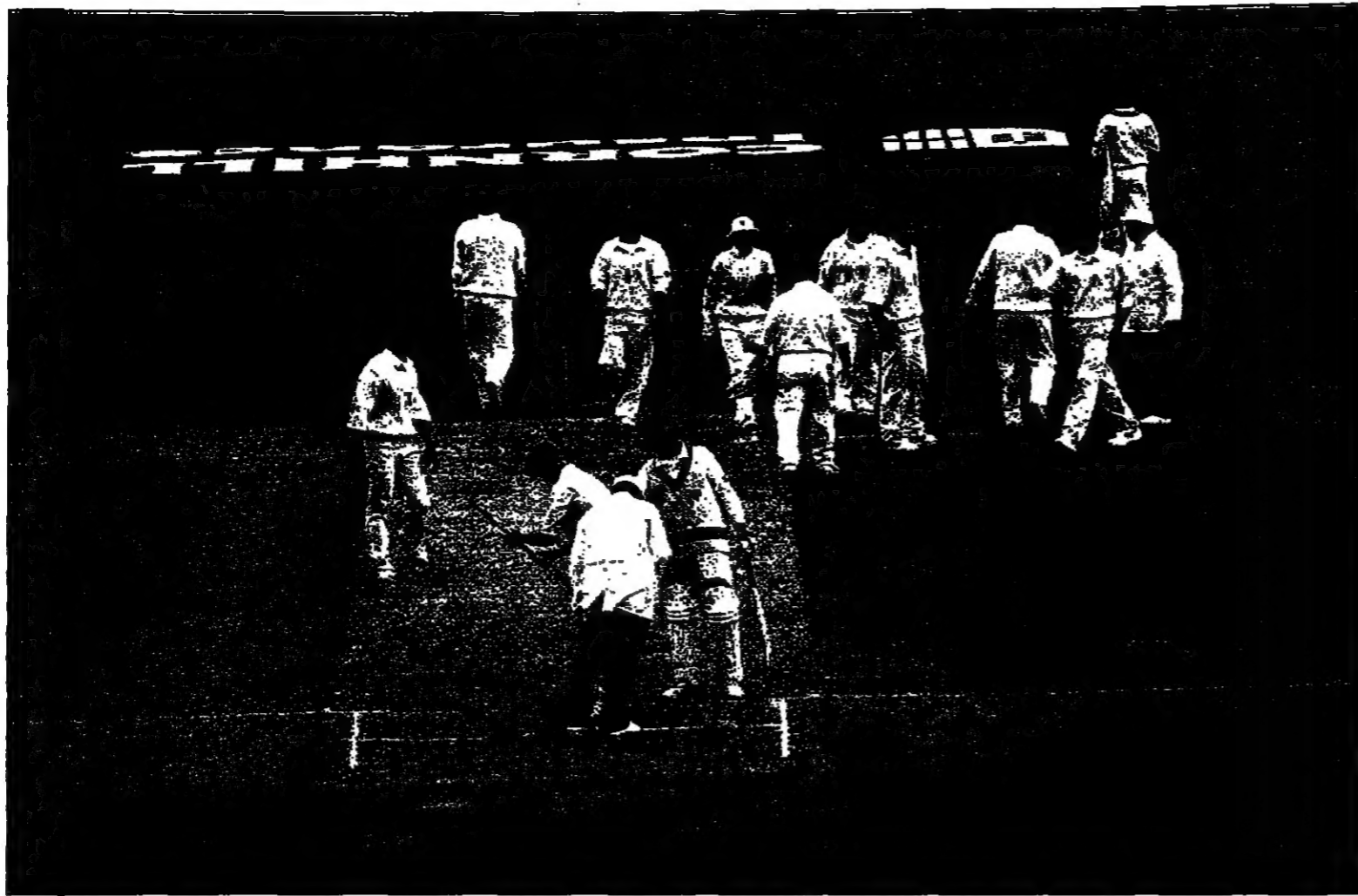
SportsGuardian

PAKISTAN AWAIT AS AHERTON'S MEN BASK AT THE END OF AN INDIAN SUMMER

England v India
Third Comhill Test,
final day

English secure series but face sterner tests of their resolve

Mike Selvey on the last rites at Trent Bridge



They know it's all over ... players remove the stumps at Trent Bridge at the end of the three-match series against India PHOTOGRAPH: MATTHEW ASHTON

THE third and final Test drifted to its predictable end yesterday evening when Mark Ealham, on a nice little roll, took his fourth wicket in the space of 17 balls to mop up the tired remnants of the Indian innings.

Things appear to be moving forwards. Well as India played at times, however, England are aware that the Pakistanis, with their scintillating all-round skills allied to consistency, and already bedding themselves in around the shires, should provide a more searching test over the second half of the summer.

Given that they suffered from a lethal combination of hypothermia, internal strife and injury at the start of the tour, India ultimately proved attractive and competitive opponents, and England will be relieved that their resurgence, which began at Lord's, was not accompanied by a decent share of the luck.

England, too, have a clearer idea of the direction in which they are moving. The eager return of Chris Lewis has given some bite to the bowling and Moolally has pace, although for the rest of the summer he will have to bear comparison with Wasim Akram. Ealham, an enthusiastic batter and a willing bowler not to be underestimated, can be more than satisfied with a debut that brought a half-century and four for 21 from 14 overs yesterday.

Against that, though, there is the worrying form of Graeme Hick, who when the teams last met finished top of the averages, but who finished bottom of them in this series. He is facing stiff competition from the likes of John Crawley. The problem of spin bowling, at a low ebb in the domestic game, also remains no nearer solution.

England began the day 29 runs ahead with, effectively, two wickets in hand, and the slender possibility remained that an Indian batting order deprived of Rathore, and possibly Asharuddin, could crumble.



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The big bonus came, however, with Nasser Hussain, who has occupied the No.3 position with distinction and maturity, scoring two centuries, and was an unrivalled

The problem of spin bowling, at a low ebb in the domestic game, remains no nearer to a solution

England began the day 29 runs ahead with, effectively, two wickets in hand, and the slender possibility remained that an Indian batting order deprived of Rathore, and possibly Asharuddin, could crumble.

Why the best seats are in the marquee



Vincent Hanna

THE fellows in the executive boxes are lucky," Stan Boardman once said. "They can draw the curtains." He was talking about Goodison Park, but it could have been Trent Bridge. At Lord's, on dull days, box-folk can slide into their back room and drink.

John explained, but he will lose to the top players until he builds himself up and gets more power. Funnily enough, that's what they used to say about a tall gangly youth called Richard Krajicek. Sadly, the rain hardly affected the Test match and we were forced to watch five days of cricket on a lifeless pitch.

Wimbledon slowly has turned itself into an over-priced exercise in corporate greed, with tennis added on. Grass is unreliable to play on unless it is hot. This year's weather kept bounces low, the footing unsure. Those of the crowd without access to a marquee were frustrated.

I HAD two more frustrating experiences. When Nigel Benn fell over in round four of his fight with Steve Collins, it was hard to tell what injury he sustained.

Guardian Crossword No 20,701

Set by Araucaria

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32

Across

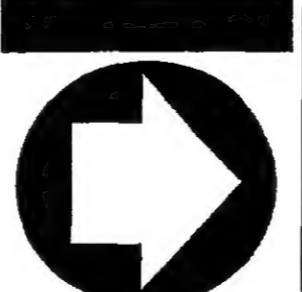
- 1 Excavation is back: enter Arab chief, flexible if pressed (4-5)
- 6 This 25 is lemon 25, by the sound of it (4)
- 10 Words of the newly rich (5)
- 11 Ready to wear though not hung properly? (3,3,3)
- 12 Food setter ate while entertaining relation (4,3)
- 13 Producer of the English can't gone broke (7)
- 14 Picture is baffling: is it the end of play or thorough-going dentistry? (7,9)
- 17 Putting together a measure with big and little ends (10-3)
- 21 A runner in the Oaks, say, leaves off (7)
- 22,26 Has Richard enough power to go round in case it brings light? (11)

Down

- 1 Lacking posh background, finds females awkward (4-4)
- 2 Nick's black girl? (5)
- 3 Proles' accent is upsetting for the new kids (9,5)
- 4 Try poem at gig: I dropped a brick (4,3)
- 5 Something missing — its ears, for hearing? (7)
- 7 It gives one a taste for tripe and peas (9)
- 8 How much for a personal appearance? (9)

Solution tomorrow

23 Snuck? Then call our solutions line on 0991 238 238. Calls cost 30p per min, cheap rate, 45p per min at all other times. Service supplied by ATS.



Mr Paisley is known to get very angry when his tub-thumping speeches incite Protestant gangs to stone their Catholic neighbours or burn them out of their homes. It now appears these sectarian hot-heads have failed to grasp that he shouldn't be taken literally: he is prone to telling jokes. Roy Greenslade

Thursday July 10 1996

Walkabout

The man

32 with E

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Inside